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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Missouri).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 11, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JASON T. SMITH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2014, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

NO SUBSIDIES WITHOUT VERIFICATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, more than 1 million Americans who signed up for health care on the Federal ObamaCare exchange may be receiving an incorrect taxpayer subsidy for their plan due to the fact that the Obama administration pushed this law through before the systems were in place to accurately confirm eligibility.

This isn't mere incompetence on the part of the White House; no, this is a

direct result of the administration's insistence on moving forward with their arbitrary October 1, 2013, open enrollment date, regardless of the consequences.

Consider the problem this presents as there is currently no realtime system in place to ensure only those who qualify for subsidies receive them. This means that hardworking American taxpayers may be left on the hook for potentially billions of dollars in fraudulent subsidy payments. Furthermore, it means that someone who simply fills out their ObamaCare enrollment application incorrectly could be hounded for years by the Internal Revenue Service for back taxes owed on improper payments.

This problem was entirely preventable. That is why, in the wake of the clandestine holiday rules change that delayed income verification provisions in ObamaCare last summer, I introduced legislation that would have prevented any ObamaCare subsidies from being doled out until a system was in place to make sure that only those who were determined eligible would receive them. The House acted on this legislation, passing it in a bipartisan vote last September to help protect the American taxpayers from rampant fraud and abuse.

Unfortunately, instead of giving my bill the consideration that it deserved, the Senate stripped the verification provision contained in the bill and replaced it with language requiring a mere report to Congress by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius at the end of last year, certifying that there is a system in place to verify incomes before subsidies are paid out.

Predictably, this weakened income verification language has failed, and we have now learned from news reports that over 1 million Americans are potentially receiving an amount in error. That is why I have now introduced H.R.

4805, the No Subsidies Without Verification Act of 2014.

The tax credits and cost-sharing assistance for ObamaCare premiums administered by HHS is estimated to amount to a staggering \$10 billion per month, making this one of the largest entitlement programs in the Nation. My bill would simply require an income verification system to be put into place before any additional taxpayer subsidies are given out.

Mr. Speaker, ObamaCare has become such a boondoggle that the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office can't even score it anymore. My commonsense legislation would slow the bleeding this law is having on American taxpayers, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to move it forward.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIÉRREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, some things do not change after a primary, even a primary result that no one, including the winning candidate, had predicted. The thing that does not change with the political winds in Washington is the calendar. There are only 10 legislative days before the July Fourth recess.

Another thing has not changed. The Republican Party and the Republican leadership have a difficult choice. They can choose to address the immigration issue head-on and get it resolved, and give the Republican nominee in 2016 a fighting chance in his or her run for the White House, or they can go back to the bunker, sharpen their anti-Obama knives, and never get to the White House in the next generation, possibly two.

As I have said on the floor before, if there is no serious immigration reform action headed toward a floor vote in

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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the House by July Fourth, we will not see action at all, and it will be left up to the President to rescue the country from the worst aspects of our dysfunctional immigration system.

On the Democratic side, we all prefer a legislative solution where the House, like our counterparts in the Senate, pass bills signed by the President. But in the absence of anything resembling leadership from the legislature, the President will not just sit back and watch a bad situation get worse. He will act in accordance with existing law to protect all immigrants he can. I believe he can protect literally millions of them through executive action.

Immigration reform is not dead. It will just move to the White House for action if none comes from this House. So with 10 days left before July Fourth, where do we stand? The majority leader released his legislative schedule for the month of June, and reforming our immigration system is nowhere to be found. Immigration is the single most important issue to address for the Republican Party's ability to be competitive at the national level after this fall, and it is nowhere on the schedule before this fall.

So what lessons have we learned? Half-measures to legalize some immigrants here and allow legal immigration for some industries there doesn't seem to have much political traction with conservative voters in the South. Blocking sensible immigration reform and sending out mailers decrying "amnesty" at the last minute doesn't seem to have much traction with southern voters in conservative districts.

Articulating, however, a firm argument for why deporting 11 or 12 million people is not a realistic proposition, defending your position that legal immigration is preferable to illegal immigration, and making clear that the only way to actual border security is a combination of enforcement, legal immigration, and addressing the legal status for immigrants already living and working here seems to work pretty well with southern conservative voters.

That is what the gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. GRAHAM, would tell us, or the gentlelady from North Carolina, or every poll that has been taken in recent memory. And we know that in every part of the country outside the most conservative districts, mainly in the South, supporting the end of illegal immigration and a broad and rigorous legalization combined with serious workplace and border enforcement is not only the policy that works, it is the only policy that is viable politically.

So every pundit on TV last night said it was time to man the barricades. They said immigration reform with a Republican stamp in a Republican Congress is dead because the American people want to be protected from the threatening world outside, and Republican Congressmen want to be protected from their threatening voters.

But it is still up to the Republican leadership how they plan to proceed.

Not a single Republican who opposes immigration reform needs to vote for it—not one. And we will still have a majority of the House voting to do what a majority of Americans want them to do; that is, address our broken immigration system.

Next week in Judiciary we will have a hearing on the crisis of unaccompanied minors fleeing Central America, and we will be pointing fingers at everyone but ourselves, and not, I would note, using the few remaining legislative days available to craft a sensible border and immigration strategy as our colleagues did in the Senate almost a full year ago.

Let us not accept the latest excuse for inaction on immigration, especially from those who want to take no action under any conditions. This Nation—built by and sustained by 400 years of immigration—needs a coherent system, and we need politicians brave enough to craft one.

CELEBRATING FLAG DAY AND THE ARMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Flag Day, which will be celebrated on Saturday, June 14. This date is important to all Americans, as June 14, 1777, is the date the Continental Congress adopted a resolution officially designating a flag of the United States. That same date in 1775 is also recognized as the birthday of our Army.

On our flag, those 13 broad stripes and 50 bright stars are an important symbol of America that is recognized across the globe and, quite frankly, even on the Moon.

Our flag has many meanings. Our flag is raised by our athletes during the Olympics. Our flag is flown with pride and honor during ceremonies. Our flag is worn on the right arm of every soldier. And our flag is draped over the coffins of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the country that it represents and that they served.

This Saturday, June 14, I encourage all to remember why we fly our flag and to also use the opportunity to remember the Army's birthday and the many soldiers who have defended the flag and what it has represented for the past 239 years.

GUN CONTROL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was the 74th school shooting incident since the horrific day at Sandy Hook in December 2012 where 26 people, including 20 children, were slaughtered. Only this time, it was my district.

Reynolds High School, the second-largest in the State of Oregon, was the scene of the tragic murder of 14-year-old Emilio Hoffman, a junior high school varsity soccer player and volunteer soccer coach. He was gunned down; a teacher was wounded, and the shooter, apparently an ex-student, dead.

I was struck by, just a few days earlier, when *The Onion*, the satirical newspaper, had their response to this recent spate of shootings that has shaken us all.

The *Onion* headline read:

"No Way To Prevent This," Says Only Nation Where This Regularly Happens.

The article read:

In the days following a violent rampage in southern California in which a lone attacker killed seven individuals, including himself, and seriously injured over a dozen others, citizens living in the only country where this kind of mass killing routinely occurs reportedly concluded that there was no way to prevent the massacre from taking place. "This was a terrible tragedy, but sometimes these things just happen and there is nothing anyone can do to stop them," said North Carolina resident Samuel Wipper, echoing sentiments expressed by tens of millions of individuals who reside in a nation where over half the world's deadliest mass shootings have occurred in the past 50 years and whose citizens are 20 times more likely to die of gun violence than those of other developed countries. "It is a shame, but what can we do? There really isn't anything that was going to keep this guy from snapping and killing a lot of people if that is what he really wanted." At press time, residents of the only economically advanced nation in the world where roughly two mass shootings have occurred every month for the past 5 years were referring themselves and their situation as "hopeless."

Well, the fact is we can do something about gun violence. It is a public health crisis, and with any other disease or health product that produced such widespread death and destruction, we would mobilize. First, we need to take some simple, commonsense steps like universal background gun checks. We have them in my State of Oregon. Obviously, it doesn't keep every senseless act of gun violence from happening, but it is often proven effective to keep weapons out of the hands of the mentally unstable and criminal elements.

Universal background checks are supported by an overwhelming number of Americans—over 90 percent by some estimates—and a strong majority, over two-thirds, of gun owners want to make sure there are no loopholes in the background check laws.

Recent events have also demonstrated what you will find out by visiting any jail, emergency room, or simply walking the streets of our communities: too many Americans are facing a mental health crisis. I am looking forward to working with Representative TIM MURPHY on his H.R. 3717, Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act.

□ 1015

We have been discussing ways to advance some of the provisions in this

Congress. Recently, my friend and colleague from Tucson, Congressman RON BARBER, himself a victim of gun violence which occurred during the tragic murders in Tucson—which included the serious wounding of our former colleague, Gabby Giffords—has also introduced legislation.

I am looking forward to being able to work with both Congressman MURPHY and Congressman BARBER, so that this Congress produces legislation to strengthen the opportunities to help people who are mentally ill.

We ought not to pretend that there is nothing we can do about these situations. Look at what happened with automobile safety. It has dramatically improved within a generation, once we stopped accepting the carnage on our roadways.

Auto deaths have been cut in half, serious injuries reduced, not with any single magic solution, but by patient, hard work involving step-by-step efforts to improve design and construction of automobiles, the education of drivers, and the enforcement of our laws.

Education, engineering, and enforcement can likewise make a big difference in reducing the epidemic of gun violence in America, and we certainly can do a better job of helping individuals and families in mental health crisis.

Let's not make a parody in The Onion be the reality of this Congress. Let's act. Tens of thousands of victims, past and future, including young Emilio Hoffman, demand our best efforts.

HONORING LINDA TOWSE FOR 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress rely a great deal on our staff for policy advice, research, interacting with constituents, and all of the other tasks that allow us to serve our districts.

Today, I would like to take a moment to recognize one member of my staff who has been the backbone of my office for over 35 years. Linda Towse started in my office on June 7, 1979, less than 2 months after I was elected.

Last week marked her 35th anniversary in our office. Before that, Linda worked with Senator Edward Brooke from Massachusetts. All told, Linda has been a congressional staffer for 42 years.

Always patient, always thoughtful, always thorough, Linda is what every Member wants in a staffer. She has helped countless Sixth District residents resolve issues with Federal agencies.

Hundreds of young people will remember Linda for her work coordinating their internship in my office or working with them while overseeing my service academy commission.

Birthdays are always remembered and celebrated thanks to her, and fellow staff rely on her years of wisdom and experience for learning the ropes and succeeding in their jobs.

She is our office historian and somehow locates any specific piece of paper when needed from the stack of papers on her desk.

We see staffers come and go, but it is rare to have one as dedicated as Linda and one who has served the Congress for over 40 years. Thank you, Linda, for your service to the Sixth District of Wisconsin over these many years.

CONGRATULATING AUDRA McDONALD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Audra McDonald, an award-winning actress and singer from my hometown of Fresno, California.

Audra, who I have the pleasure of knowing personally, made history on Sunday, if you were watching the Tony Awards, when she received her sixth Tony Award. This win makes her the most statue-laden Tony Award winner in our Nation's history. Audra's most recent Tony Award was for her incredible portrayal of Billie Holiday in "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill."

Audra, who grew up in Fresno, began her career with my friend Dan Pessano and the Good Company Players while attending Roosevelt High School. She then went on to graduate from the Juilliard School of New York in 1993. Audra has seen great success on Broadway, television, and in the opera.

In addition to having won three Tony Awards at the age of 28, Audra has also received numerous Grammy Awards, Drama Desk Awards, and Outer Critics Circle Awards. There is almost nothing that she hasn't performed in her field. She also has been able to display her talents at the White House and on the greatest stages in the world.

Audra is not only an exceptional actress, but also a wonderful, giving person. She actively gives back to her community and seeks to improve the lives of those around her, including her family.

Earlier this year, she held a benefit concert for Hands in the Community and is a supporter of marriage equality. She also sits on the advisory committee for Broadway Impact. Most importantly, she has always given credit to where credit is due, beginning with her parents who are respected educators in Fresno, who motivated and taught students as they taught Audra.

Audra McDonald is a source of pride and inspiration in the San Joaquin Valley and her hometown of Fresno, as well as around the world. I think it is important that we take special note of the talented people throughout our country who provide joy and the expe-

rience of the arts as this very, very fine individual has done, a star in her own right, Audra McDonald—hometown, Fresno, California.

FEDERAL RESERVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I have the Federal Reserve on my mind this morning.

You can't really get through the Federal Reserve in 5 minutes, Mr. Speaker, but I wanted to start down the road today because I saw a headline Bloomberg reported to say that what had been intended to be the beginning of an unwinding of a Federal Reserve balance sheet wasn't going to occur in the timely fashion that had been intended. This was news to me, based on what we have seen in the Budget Committee.

I have with me this morning the Federal Reserve Act authorization. Folks often wonder where the Federal Reserve comes from. The truth is it comes from the Federal Reserve Act.

I point to section 2A, "Monetary policy objectives." It says that:

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve and the Open Market Committee shall maintain long-run growth of the monetary and credit aggregates commensurate with the economy's long-run potential to increase production, so as to promote effectively the goals of maximum employment, stable prices, and moderate long-term interest rates.

Now, I know there are some high school economic students out there who are thinking: Hey, wait a minute. Can you really promote stable prices, maximum employment, and moderate long-term interest rates with the same set of policies?

I share that high school economics concern about whether or not those three goals can be pursued collectively, but this is the mandate the Federal Reserve has, and this is why the Federal Reserve is involved in what they are involved in.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what I have here is the Federal Reserve balance sheet. It goes back to 2007, back when the Federal Reserve balance sheet was relatively stable. By stable, I mean it was at about \$800 billion—\$800 billion, the balance sheet of the Federal Reserve.

I want you to watch on the chart as we go out through these stable times, right up until the balance sheet triples in 2008. Now, when we are trying to promote economic stability, the tripling of any government balance sheet should be of concern. The Federal Reserve balance sheet triples in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, I hold in my hand a hearing transcript from my very first month on the Budget Committee. That occurred 3 years ago. It was 2011, and Chairman PAUL RYAN was questioning Ben Bernanke, then the Federal Reserve chairman.

Chairman RYAN said, "I want to talk to you about QE2"—quantitative easing 2—and what it is doing to the American economy.

Chairman Bernanke's response was this, Mr. Speaker. He said:

What we are doing here is a temporary measure which will be reversed, so that at the end of this process, the money supply will be normalized, the amount of the Fed's balance sheet will be normalized, and there will be no permanent increase, either in money outstanding, in the Fed's balance sheet, or in inflation.

That was February 2011. I point to February 2011 on my chart here, Mr. Speaker, where the Federal Reserve chairman said that the balance sheet would begin to normalize.

What I want you to observe in the intervening months between February 2011, when normalization was discussed and projected, we have actually seen the balance sheet increase almost 100 percent. Today, we are met with the news that a return to a normalized balance sheet may be delayed even further.

Mr. Speaker, these are decisions on which no Member of this Chamber votes. These are decisions on which no member of America's board of directors—being the American voters—have a voice, and this is a decision that will either rescue or destroy the economic future of this country.

It needs to be discussed more often, Mr. Speaker. I intend to bring these issues to the floor on a regular basis. No harm will come from shining the bright light of transparency on these Federal Reserve decisions. No harm will come from incorporating 330 million Americans into this debate about America's economic security.

ALL-OF-THE-ABOVE ENERGY POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, we live in a country that is truly blessed with an abundant array of energy resources, yet despite major advances in technology in recent years that are allowing us to access even more of these energy resources, our country is sadly failing to take advantage of these opportunities and is imposing higher costs on all Americans.

My constituents and people across the country continue to struggle to keep up with high energy prices. With an average price of nearly \$4 for a gallon of gas in Michigan, middle class families in my district can't understand why the Federal Government can't get serious about developing an all-of-the-above energy policy.

For the past few years, House Republicans have been pursuing an all-of-the-above energy strategy. We understand that developing our resources at home won't only lower energy costs, but it will grow good paying American jobs and ease the squeeze on the middle class.

The House has taken action to immediately ease that pain. In February, we passed H.R. 3826, the Electricity Security and Affordability Act, to put a check on the President's and the EPA's misuse of the Clean Air Act in pursuit of cap-and-trade.

In March, we passed H.R. 2824, the Preventing Government Waste and Protecting Coal Mining Jobs in America Act, which would protect coal mining from unnecessary, harmful, and useless Federal regulation. We need the resources, and our people need these jobs.

The House will continue standing up for the American people and against the President's plans to increase utility costs. This week, I proudly cosponsored H.R. 3301, the North American Energy Infrastructure Act, a bill introduced by Chairman UPTON of the Energy and Commerce Committee, that will remove redtape that interferes with our ability to build the necessary infrastructure to move North American energy where it is needed most.

I expect the House will soon consider H.R. 3301 and a number of other bills that will lessen the squeeze of high energy prices, while protecting and creating new energy jobs that will grow a healthy economy and form a framework for all of our middle class and a real all-of-the-above energy plan.

HELPING FAMILIES IN MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, a gunman with a history of mental illness killed one and wounded two others at a Seattle university.

Just before Memorial Day, a young man known by his family and therapists to be mentally ill killed six people and himself in another awful episode of mass violence.

Before there was Elliot Rodger, there was Adam Lanza in Newtown; Jared Loughner in Tucson; James Holmes in Aurora, Colorado; and Aaron Alexis at the Washington Navy Yard.

There was Gus Deeds, another young man who was in a mental health crisis, but was denied extended inpatient care at a hospital before he killed himself and stabbed his father, a Virginia State senator.

All had untreated or undertreated serious mental illness. All spiraled out of control within a system that lacked the basic mechanisms to help. Many had parents who were pleading for more help.

How many more must die before we finally deal with our broken mental health system?

Violence amongst persons with mental illness is extraordinarily rare and is far more likely to be self-directed. Last year, there was 40,000 suicide deaths and almost 1 million attempts.

□ 1030

The mentally ill are more likely to be the victims of violence, robberies, beatings, rape, and other crimes. The mentally ill are also 10 times more likely to be in jail than a hospital. That is because the seriously mentally ill often encounter law enforcement after refusing medical care.

What makes these painful episodes so confounding is the reality that so many tragedies involving a person with mental illness is entirely preventable. For example, in 34 States, Elliot Rodger's family would have been able to ask a court to order an emergency psychiatric evaluation, but in California the law says they cannot.

The families know when their loved one is in a mental health crisis and their condition is gravely deteriorating; but as our yearlong investigation performed at the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations revealed, families are shut out from being part of the care delivery system.

As revealed in our subcommittee review, for far too long, policymakers have been in denial about brain disease and serious mental illness as well as the need to address these medical issues in the policy arena. We pretend like it doesn't exist and, therefore, don't have policies in place to help families and patients in mental health crisis.

Congress has been more comfortable in the behavioral wellness realm than in confronting the difficult and painful reality that persons with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major clinical depression are more likely to end up homeless, in prison, or dead by suicide than in a meaningful health care treatment setting because of our failure to make courageous, substantive legislative changes.

We pretend that all the seriously mentally ill are fully aware of their symptoms and welcome treatment. The fact is many don't. Forty percent of persons with schizophrenia and bipolar disorder do not even recognize their delusions and hallucinations aren't real. They refuse treatment and don't get better.

They have a right to get better, and don't they have a right to get treatment?

Our investigation paved the way for the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act. With nearly 90 cosponsors, my bipartisan measure fixes the shortage of psychiatric hospital beds, clarifies HIPAA privacy laws so families are part of the frontline care, and helps patients get treatment well before their illness spirals into crisis. The bill has been endorsed by nearly a dozen publications, including The Washington Post, Seattle Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Wall Street Journal, and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Each day, I hear from families in crisis from across the country who are counting on our efforts to bring positive changes to the mental health system. We cannot let these families

down. Lives are depending on it. We cannot wish this away, and denial is not a treatment.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort by cosponsoring H.R. 3717, the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act. Please help, because where there is no help, there is no hope.

TAKE ACTION AND VOTE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the House of Representatives stood in solidarity and silence as we once again rose to acknowledge another death, another shooting, another loss of life again at one of our schools. We rose out of respect for the victims and their families, as we have done repeatedly.

On average, there has been a shooting in a school a week. The American people are outraged. They no longer want Congress' silence. They want to hear Congress' voice.

In America, the most important thing that we can do is vote; the most patriotic thing that we can do is vote. But in this Chamber, we have yet to take up simple legislation on background checks.

Now, let me be very specific about that.

PAT TOOMEY, JOE MANCHIN, two of the most conservative Senators in the United States Congress, put together a very narrowly constructed compromise that called for universal background checks to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and the mentally ill.

This is not complicated. It is supported by 92 percent of the American people and 76 percent of the NRA. JOHN BOEHNER, ERIC CANTOR, KEVIN MCCARTHY, CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS are honorable people. They know what the right thing to do is. And the right thing here, whatever side you come down on this issue, is to give the people in the people's House a vote.

How many more times are we going to hear the pleas from parents who are crying out for Congress to take action? In a body where many people pride themselves on the right to life, why will we not rise to do everything to protect our schoolchildren?

When I was growing up, we used to have drills because we were fearful of nuclear annihilation by Russia. Today our schools go through routine lockdown drills for fear of our own citizens.

Congress has got to act or Congress, as I have said before on this floor, is duplicitous in every single tragedy that takes place, duplicitous because of its inaction. It is the morally right thing to do to cast a vote.

However you feel on this issue, and there are strong feelings about it, but the American people, and clearly the families of these victims, need to know that minimally their democracy was

willing not to stand in silence and in remorse, as important as that was and is, but to take action and vote.

U.S.-SERBIA ALLIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, since our founding, Americans have always had to fight for the liberty and freedom that we have. Throughout our history, we have had allies from other parts of the world on our side ready to help us, and we have been ready to help them stand together for freedom over tyranny.

Today, I want to commemorate one of our most important allies: the people of Serbia. For more than 130 years, we have had a close relationship with the Serbian people.

I have on my staff here in Washington a Serbian American, Blair Bjellos, who is my victim's advocate. When I was in Texas as a judge, my chief of staff, Elaine Dudich Stolte, who now runs the best children's assessment center in the world, worked for me. Both are of Serbian descent.

Our friendship with the Serbians is based on our shared belief in democracy and standing up for liberty. During both World War I and World War II, our two countries fought on the same battlefield and our people shared and shed blood together. Because of that brotherhood, we have a special relationship.

During World War I, Austria-Hungary tried to pick a fight with Serbia, through the July Ultimatum. Of course, the Ultimatum wasn't a deal at all, and it was purposely unacceptable and meant to provoke a war with the two nations. Despite being 10 times smaller than Austria-Hungary, Serbia, an independent, freedom-loving nation, refused to back down to the aggressor. Like a true David versus Goliath, the Serbian people fought valiantly with us against the central powers in World War I. In the end, 25 percent of the Serbian population was killed during that war.

Despite the toll World War I took on Serbia, when World War II started, they were allies again. There are numerous accounts of bravery that the Serbs conducted during World War II, and a lot of that was not known to the world until recently. I just want to talk about one of those.

Perhaps the most inspiring report of bravery and brotherhood was shown during the Halyard Mission, when Serbian General Draza Mihailovich and Serbian American George Vujnovich led a mission to save American pilots that had been shot down by Nazi planes behind the lines in Serbia.

In 1944, hundreds of B-17 and B-24 fighter pilots and their crews were shot down by the Nazi Luftwaffe over what we now know as Serbia. General Mihailovich immediately began finding those pilots and members of the crew

and hid them in barns and farmhouses throughout Serbia, wherever he could find them shelter. He and his men and local Serbian civilians hid our troops. They risked their lives in doing so, and many of them later paid the consequences when the Nazis found out about it.

When Mihailovich radioed Washington to alert them of his actions, here in the United States, Vujnovich, an OSS agent of Serbian descent, found out and planned a daring rescue mission. Vujnovich would train Allied Forces on how to act like Serbs and sneak them into Nazi territory to save the downed pilots and their crews. Once in, they would help guide U.S. planes into the country to pick up the downed pilots.

With the help of local Serbs, the undercover U.S. soldiers and General Mihailovich built a makeshift runway in just 9 days. They had no sophisticated tools or machinery. They just used oxen, wagons, brute strength, and the tools that they could find. Over the next 6 months, Allied planes flew right under Nazi noses to land on that crude airstrip.

I was most fortunate to have known one of those brave men. Serbian George Dudich was among those who risked his life to save those American downed pilots. When Mr. Dudich and his family later came to the United States after Communist Tito took over, he took time to find many of those downed pilots and crew members to meet with them once again. In total, the Halyard Mission saved 512 U.S. airmen. Not one American was lost, although many Serbs died in those rescues. Unfortunately, the United States took the wrong side after the war and we supported Tito, a communist, rather than Mihailovich, to lead Serbia.

We did not recognize Mihailovich's deeds until recently, and now he has been awarded the Legion of Merit; and Vujnovich, at 95 years old, received a Bronze Star from the United States.

Many Americans and many American Serbs served together then, and I want to congratulate the relationship and commemorate the relationship between the United States and Serbia during the wars and the relationship the two countries have today.

And that's just the way it is.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 43 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Rabbi Eytan Hammerman, Temple Beth Shalom, Mahopac, New York, offered the following prayer:

Our God and God of our ancestors, we rise in prayer in one of the world's most sacred spaces. This hallowed Hall combines enormous power with awesome responsibility. We pray that You, O God, inspire those who stand before You today—mere mortals—women and men, young and old, the many races, colors, and ancestries that make up our blessed country.

In the Jewish calendar, we have just concluded the Feast of Weeks, marking, we are taught, the receipt of the Bible at Mount Sinai. This was the culmination of a march from bondage and slavery toward freedom and responsibility. We ask that You bless the Members of this august body as they work to guarantee freedom in our day so that we may all live long lives; peaceful lives of goodness and blessing; lives free from shame; lives filled with abundance and honor; and lives in which our hearts' desire for goodness—for one and all—will be fulfilled.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEEHAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MEEHAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING RABBI EYTAN HAMMERMAN

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I welcome Rabbi Eytan Hammerman of Temple Beth Shalom to the House of Representatives and thank him for serving as today's guest chaplain.

Rabbi Hammerman leads the congregation at Temple Beth Shalom and is passionate about serving his neighbors in Mahopac, New York.

A distinguished scholar, Rabbi Hammerman holds a B.A. and a master's degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City and a degree in political science from Co-

lumbia University. Before he joined Temple Beth Shalom in 2010, he served small and large congregations in Baltimore, Maryland; White Plains, New York; and northern New Jersey, in addition to serving as director of the Jewish Youth Philanthropy Institute here in Washington, D.C.

Rabbi Hammerman has served the Mahopac community since he was ordained in 2010, and his leadership has united people all throughout the community—no matter what their beliefs or what their background.

Not only a religious leader, he has long been a political advocate for justice and equality, and especially for a reduction in the horrible plague of gun violence we see in our country.

He is joined here today by his wife, Rebecca, and his three beautiful daughters, Ary, Rena, and Ilana, as well as his mother- and father-in-law, Marjorie and Dr. Steven Hoffman.

Not only a religious leader, he is also my friend, and I am proud to call him my friend. I hope you will join me in welcoming Rabbi Hammerman.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF JAMES F. KILCUR OF WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA

(Mr. MEEHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, last week, I attended the Transportation Management Association of Chester County for its annual legislative breakfast. At the breakfast, the association posthumously honored James F. Kilcur as its executive director emeritus. It is a very special recognition by his colleagues within the transportation industry. I can't think of anybody more deserving of this distinction than Jim, and I join the association in honoring Jim's service to southeastern Pennsylvania.

Jim Kilcur, of West Chester, Pennsylvania, died on Wednesday, February 19, 2014. Born in northeast Philadelphia, Jim was a proud Philadelphia native and a pillar of his community. He was a labor lawyer admired for his trusted counsel and respected by all for his ability to get to a fair resolution of any matter. Jim stood out at Saul Ewing as a partner and at Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority as general counsel for nearly a decade. Then, just as now, everybody respected Jim.

I had the pleasure to work with Jim during his time at SEPTA. He was a confident, intelligent man, and while tolerant of other positions, was steadfast in his own. He was decisive, and there was no waffling or ambiguity in his thinking.

Jim was the chairman of the board of trustees of his alma mater, DeSales University in Center Valley, and a proud alumni of Cardinal Dougherty High School.

I would like to commend Jim on his devoted service to his community, to his church, and his impressive career history, and his life of love and devotion to his family, especially his wife. Let me remember Jim with this legacy.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that yesterday the House adopted my amendment to prevent communities that have experienced recent population loss from being excluded from the Community Development Block Grant program.

Since the creation of the Community Development Block Grant program in 1974, HUD has designated "entitlement communities," which included cities with a population of at least 50,000. For 40 years, HUD has allowed cities that have had their populations fall below 50,000 to continue to participate in the program.

Unfortunately, HUD signaled a desire to change course and to remove these cities from the program. This would have devastated 127 cities in 31 States, including the city of Niagara Falls in my congressional district.

The Community Development Block Grant program has become a foundation for community and economic development across the Nation and in western New York.

I am pleased that communities who rely on this funding will continue to have access to this critical resource.

WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH RESOLUTION

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today, I, along with my colleague, Congresswoman DONNA EDWARDS, who is here with me today, am introducing an important bipartisan resolution targeting heart disease in women.

Dubbed "the silent killer," this disease is the number one killer of women in the United States. Since 1984, more women have died of heart disease than men. It is the leading cause of death in West Virginia, claiming more than 4,800 lives in the year 2010.

Preventative screenings can make a huge difference in helping women learn the risk of heart disease and how to reduce that risk. Women often rely on their OB/GYNs and community health centers for primary care, and our resolution seeks to educate women of all ages on the need to make heart health an important part of their screening

wherever they receive care and from whoever they are seeing.

Women spend so much time taking care of others—spouses, children, aging parents, and the responsibilities of work. It is time to encourage all women to take better care of themselves.

Learn your risk factors. Learn how to be healthier. Learn how to live longer and healthier for yourself and for those that you love.

SEVENTY-FOUR SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, there have been 74 school shootings since the Sandy Hook tragedy:

Apostolic Revival Center Christian School; Taft Union High School; Stevens Institute of Business; Hazard Community College; Chicago State University; Lone Star College; Price Middle School; Morehouse College; Indian River State College; Hillside Elementary School; Henry Grady High School; the University of Central Florida; Davidson Middle School; New River Community College; Elizabeth City State University; Grambling State University; Stillman College; La Salle High School; Santa Monica College; Alexander Dreyfoos School of the Arts; Northwest High School; Ronald McNair Learning Academy; Westside Elementary School; North Panola High School; Carver High School; Savannah State University; New Gloucester High School; Agape Christian Academy; Lanier High School; Sparks Middle School; Algona High School and Middle School; North Carolina A&T; Stephenson High School; South Dakota School of Technology; West Orange High School; Arapahoe High School; Edison High School; Liberty Technology High School; Berrendo Middle School; Martin Luther King Elementary School; Delaware Valley Charter High School; Widener University; Purdue University; South Carolina Staten University; Tennessee State University; Eastern Florida State College; Cesar Chavez High School; North High School; Bend High School; Salisbury High School; Brush High School; Union University; Raytown Success Academy; McDaniel College; Madison High School; University of Wisconsin; University of Delaware; Savannah State University; Kent State University; Eastern New Mexico University; East English Prep Academy; St. Mary Catholic School; Provo High School; Iowa Western Community College; Marquette University; Horizon Elementary School; Paine College; Georgetown College; Georgia Gwinnett College; Clark Street School; Seattle Pacific University; and Reynolds High School.

CELEBRATING THE NEWLY LAUNCHED DFW-HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI FLIGHTS

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the launch of two new flagship routes at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, which I represent. Today, American Airlines opens direct service from DFW to both Hong Kong and Shanghai.

These new flights are the latest additions to the growing international hub at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport. Hong Kong and Shanghai join an impressive list of other newly launched international flights from DFW, including Bogota, Dubai, Lima, Seoul, and Sydney.

Many businesses have operations in my district because of the easy access to direct flights from DFW. These new flights will promote further business development and make it easier for my constituents to travel to Asia and across the world. More good news will come next month as DFW will soon add a direct flight to Doha.

My sincere congratulations to everyone at the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

THE IMPORTANCE OF 6-DAY MAIL DELIVERY

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the United States Postal Service 6-day mail delivery.

The most recent proposal offered by the Republican leadership to pay for the highway trust fund by reducing mail service is unprecedented and irresponsible. The elimination of 6-day mail delivery would have a negative effect on the Postal Service and could result in the loss of up to 80,000 jobs.

For decades, the Postal Service has sustained and created American jobs in every corner of the country. Eliminating 6-day delivery service would not only slow the delivery of mail and harm small businesses across America, but it will impose a hardship on the elderly and rural citizens who rely most on mail delivery for medical prescriptions and critical correspondence.

The Republican leadership's proposal to eliminate 6-day mail service will take 10 years to generate enough money to fund the highway spending for just 1 year.

Proposals like these are illogical, short-term fixes for serious problems facing our Nation's transportation infrastructure. Come on, guys. Put on your thinking caps, and come up with a better proposal for America.

□ 1215

PROTECTING OUR VETERANS

(Mr. McNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on my Republican colleagues to focus on the things that the American people sent us here to do. Today, I want to talk about protecting our veterans.

We owe it to our veterans to do everything we can to restore their confidence in the VA health care system. The plan announced Monday by the VA is a step in the right direction, but we must do much more.

I stand on behalf of the veterans in my district. They are still waiting too long and driving too far to see a doctor and waiting far too long for their claims and appeals to be processed. We need to see Congress spend its time getting to the bottom of the VA's dysfunction and giving the VA leadership the tools they need to fix these problems.

This is something we should do right now, instead of spending time on yet another series of politically motivated hearings on Benghazi. I call on the Republican leadership to use our House resources to investigate the real causes of the delays and work to find real solutions that will serve our veterans. That is a plan the whole House could get behind.

OCEANS AND FISHERIES

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of smart and sustainable use of our precious ocean resources. We depend on a healthy ocean for so much—for food, livelihoods, recreation, and more. That is why scientists, managers, and entrepreneurs from across the country are currently in Washington, D.C., to discuss critical marine policy issues as part of Capitol Hill Ocean Week.

A key issue on the agenda is the responsible management of our Nation's fisheries. America's fisheries are rich, both economically and culturally, because we have smart laws that prioritize sustainable resource use.

Under these laws, our fishing industry alone contributed \$199 billion in sales and 1.7 million jobs in 2012 alone. These laws, however, are being threatened by partisan legislation recently passed by the Natural Resources Committee.

This bill—which I call the “Empty Oceans Act”—would override key environmental laws, erode fisheries, and hurt our coastal economies. It is no way to manage our ocean resources.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose the “Empty Oceans Act” and find a better path forward.

MANAGING OUR FEDERAL FISHERIES

(Mr. LOWENTHAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act, the law that manages our Nation's Federal fisheries.

Unfortunately, the bill that passed out of committee was not a bipartisan effort. Among its many concerning provisions, the bill supersedes long-standing protections for endangered species and our national marine landmarks.

That is why I offered an amendment in committee that would have kept the Marine Sanctuaries Act, the Antiquities Act, and the Endangered Species Act from being overridden by Magnuson-Stevens.

That act, Magnuson-Stevens, is really designed to manage fisheries, not to safeguard our national marine treasures. Thankfully, the Senate is taking a bipartisan approach to Magnuson-Stevens. I urge our committee leaders to follow their example and work across party lines to build a bipartisan fisheries bill.

WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH

(Ms. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as an original cosponsor of a resolution that recognizes the importance of providing basic, preventative heart screenings for women wherever they seek primary care. I want to thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), for joining with me to introduce this resolution.

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death for women in the United States, causing one in four deaths among women each year. For the past three decades, the number of deaths from heart disease for women has exceeded those of men.

I am concerned that heart disease claims the lives of more than 400,000 women each year. Nearly half of all African-American women have some form of cardiovascular disease. Among Latinas, awareness that heart disease is the leading cause of death is the lowest, at 34 percent.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to bring awareness to the burden of heart disease, so we can reduce heart disease among women in the United States by ensuring that, wherever women seek care, they get basic, preventive heart health screening for heart disease.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to cosponsor this important and timely resolution.

MOMENT OF ACTION, NOT MOMENT OF SILENCE

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday's deadly shooting at Reynolds High School in Oregon was the 74th school shooting in America since the gunman

murdered 20 children and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012.

That is nearly one school shooting per week. More than half have occurred at K-12 schools. These shootings are becoming so frequent that one company saw a business opportunity and is marketing bulletproof blankets to elementary schools.

The congressional response to the senseless loss of our children, educators, friends, and neighbors to gun violence has been silence—moments of silence on this floor, amplified only by the cowardice from those in this body who refuse to stand up for basic public safety.

Mr. Speaker, 86 Americans lose their lives to guns every day, and Americans are 20 times more likely to be murdered by a gun than people in the rest of the developed world.

The American people want us to act. Ninety-two percent support expanded background checks to close loopholes in the law and help ensure dangerous people can't get guns.

Mr. Speaker, enough with the moments of silence. It is time for a moment of action from Congress to prevent gun violence.

SIX-DAY MAIL SERVICE

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in opposition of the misguided proposal to fund the highway trust fund by eliminating Saturday mail delivery.

Time and again, I have heard from people across my region that Saturday mail service is crucially important to them and to their communities.

I had the opportunity earlier this year to partner with a letter carrier in the city of Galesburg, Illinois. As I have met folks along the delivery routes of the vast 7,000-square mile district that I serve, it is clear how important 6-day delivery is to them.

I have met seniors who depend on mail on Saturday for their prescription drugs. I have met small business owners who depend on Saturday delivery to manage their inventories. I have met folks who talk about eliminating Saturday mail as a blow to the communities across the State of Illinois and across our country.

Our transportation and infrastructure projects are critically important to our Nation, and we seek bipartisan support to make sure that happens, but not in a way that threatens the livelihood of so many people.

I stand ready to roll up my sleeves and to work across the aisle on practical solutions for our country.

REAUTHORIZING TRIA

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the reauthorization of TRIA, the antiterrorism risk insurance program, which will soon expire. This is a vitally needed program that helps the economy of our country. It was put in place after the 9/11 attacks, and it helped our country rebuild.

After 9/11, you could not get an insurance policy for even a hot dog stand in New York. You had to go to Lloyd's of London. It was tremendously expensive to get any type of insurance, but this program did exactly what it was expected to do. It allowed us to rebuild. It had a government backstop, and it did not cost the taxpayer one penny; yet it helped us build jobs and rebuild our economy.

We have so many government programs that don't work. This is one that did exactly what it was supposed to do and at no additional cost. We need to have a plan in place, so, God forbid, if we are attacked again, we have a plan of how to respond and how to rebuild. This is a program that has worked, and we need to reauthorize it.

CONGRATULATING FORT WORTH NORTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL MARIACHI BAND

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor the mariachi students at Fort Worth's North Side High School who, under the direction of Ramon Nino, were chosen to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 22. The appearance by the Fort Worth group will be the first Carnegie Hall concert by any mariachi band in 7 years.

With an outpouring of support from the school district and local community, the 23-member group has successfully raised partial funds for the trip. These hardworking students continue to rally the community for support and have played for donations at a host of metroplex-area restaurants to raise the remaining difference.

This is a great opportunity for these young people to step onto the national stage and proudly represent not only their school, but the Fort Worth community and the great State of Texas.

I am proud to represent this caring community, school, and such talented constituents. I wish them a safe journey to the Big Apple. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement.

Go Steers.

GUN VIOLENCE AT AMERICAN SCHOOLS

(Mr. HASTINGS of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday morning's fatal shooting at Reynolds High School is

the 74th shooting at a school on American soil since a lone gunman's attack on Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut, in December, 2012.

The list of shootings, which includes 13 school shootings in the first 6 weeks of this year, was compiled and is on the Web site of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. Earlier, my colleague, TED DEUTH, recited all 74 of them.

Yesterday and two other times in the last 2 weeks, the House rightly held moments of silence. I and two of my colleagues did not stand, not because of disrespect for those who lost their lives; we abhor the loss of life, and we abhor the House of Representatives taking moments of silence and then returning to business as usual and doing absolutely nothing about gun violence.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 11, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives Washington,
DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on June 11, 2014 at 9:28 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to without amendment. H. Con. Res. 100.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4800, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4457, AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESS TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2014; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4453, S CORPORATION PERMANENT TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2014

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 616 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 616

Resolved, That (a) at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4800) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against

consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. Points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 of rule XXI are waived.

(b) During consideration of the bill for amendment—

(1) each amendment, other than amendments provided for in paragraph (2), shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent and shall not be subject to amendment except as provided in paragraph (2);

(2) no pro forma amendment shall be in order except that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate; and

(3) the chair of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the Congressional Record designated for that purpose in clause 8 of rule XVIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read.

(c) When the committee rises and reports the bill back to the House with a recommendation that the bill do pass, the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4457) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4453) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the reduced recognition period for built-in gains of S corporations. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 113-46 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

□ 1230

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 616 provides for consideration of three important bills. The first, H.R. 4800, the Agriculture Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2015, will ensure continued operations for those Federal agencies responsible for monitoring the health and safety of our food and drug supplies. H.R. 4457, America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014, and H.R. 4453, the Permanent S Corporation Built-in Gains Recognition Period Act of 2014, are two critical pieces of tax legislation that will give certainty to the small business community, making permanent two pieces of our Tax Code which Congress has had to continually renew annually for decades. Making these tax credits permanent will allow businesses to look out for more than a year ahead and to actually evaluate their economic situations, allowing for those businesses to make staffing and investment decisions for the long term rather than just the short term.

The rule before us today provides for a modified open rule for H.R. 4800. This allows all Members to offer any amendments to the bill that they may choose. The Speaker is committed to completing as many appropriations bills under regular order as possible.

The rule before us formalizes the same unanimous consent agreement that was entered into during the consideration of the CJS appropriations bill, which streamlines the debate, providing for 10 minutes of debate on every amendment offered on the bill. However, in no way does this rule restrict Members from offering any and all amendments to the underlying bill.

The rule further provides for the consideration of both H.R. 4457, America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014, and H.R. 4453, the Permanent S Corporation Built-in Gains Recognition Period Act of 2014, both under a closed rule. By bringing these two bills here today, Members will be allowed to debate the policy of each of these tax provisions individually rather than as a single omnibus tax extender legislation hurriedly passed at the end of the year that would not allow Members to weigh in on each separate extender as this process does.

H.R. 4800, the Agriculture and Related Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2015, provides almost \$21 billion for the department agencies funded in the bill. This is funded at the same level as fiscal year 2014 and \$457 million above the President's request. The bill provides critical funding for agricultural research; animal and plant health; conservation programs; the Farm Service Agency; rural development, including infrastructure and food safety inspection; the Food and Drug Administration; the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; and the food and nutrition programs, including child nutrition, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and WIC, the program for women, infants, and children.

Of particular importance to the work I have been involved with on the Energy and Commerce Committee, the agriculture appropriations bill provides over \$2.5 billion in funding to the Food and Drug Administration. In addition, the bill allows for the collection of user fees cumulatively, amounting to overall discretionary funding of \$4.5 billion in the FDA.

These dollars serve an important mission. From drug and device approval to food safety, the Food and Drug Administration is at the regulatory forefront of protecting the Nation's health, but it also acts as the doorway for new treatments and cures. From basic research to cutting-edge treatments, America has led the way in opening new fields of discovery and taking medicine to boundaries that I could not have imagined during my medical training or career, yet we have barely scratched the surface of medical breakthroughs that are over the horizon. And believe it or not, there are only hundreds of treatments for diseases that afflict us and thousands still without any treatment at all, let alone a cure.

Will the United States continue to be the home for the latest inventions? If the answer to that is yes, the Food and Drug Administration will be a key part of the future.

Patients and innovators are on the front lines in the fight against diseases like Alzheimer's and cancer, yet their voices are not always heard. Bureaucratic rules have stood in the way of innovation. Some estimates show that medical devices may be approved almost 4 years earlier in Europe than in the U.S.

In 2012, the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology recommended "encouraging innovation" as part of the FDA's mission statement in order to ensure that the FDA understood its role in helping new innovative treatments reach patients.

However, the true impact of the medical device, pharmaceutical, biologic, and generic drug industries in the United States is that they are partners in providing our physicians and practitioners with the tools that they need to prevent disease and alleviate human suffering.

The Food and Drug Administration must have the infrastructure and programs in place to ensure all innovations are dealt with in a fashion that ensures safety for the patient, as well as a straightforward and predictable and streamlined approval process. The Food and Drug Administration can continue to streamline the approval process of single-molecule drugs with which they have the most regulatory experience, but if we can't handle the fundamentals, then we have got a big problem.

Congress has taken several bipartisan actions in the last few years to break down the barriers to health innovation, and the Food and Drug Administration will and has seen changes as a result. The funding provided will continue to move these reforms along, but as report language notes, there is a great deal of work that remains to be done.

For the good of patients and to retain our global leadership and the economic benefits that come with it, it is time to breathe new life into the life sciences sector. As a physician, I understand the importance of ensuring that the government has the resources to lead to the next generation of treatments in the 21st century while also ensuring that those treatments are safe and effective. The bill will ensure that the Food and Drug Administration has the scientific and medical expertise that they need when reviewing products utilizing emerging science by providing adequate resources in a challenging fiscal environment.

After the successful passage of the farm bill this year, the next step in that process is to fund those programs. H.R. 4800 achieves that goal.

And I will add, I was disappointed to see that the Healthy Food Financing Initiative, to bring grocery stores and fresh food to underserved communities, was not funded in this appropriations bill even after the House resoundingly defeated an amendment to strip the program from the farm bill, showing that this body overwhelmingly supports this initiative. I understand that an amendment to fix this oversight will be offered during consideration of the bill, and I hope that something can be worked out.

The two tax bills before us today are, again, critical to give small businesses stability and the ability to look beyond the end of each calendar year in making decisions for their companies. Extending these provisions today will be a boost to our economy.

H.R. 4457, America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014, would make permanent a provision within the Tax Code that allows annual investments of depreciable business property up to \$500,000 to be expensed. Further, computer software and rules for the expensing of qualified real property—leasehold improvement, restaurant and retail improvement property—can also be written off as well.

The present tax system harms investment in many ways. One of the most

important is that, unlike other expenses, businesses must deduct capital expenses—such as for business equipment—over many years rather than the year the expense is incurred. This raises the cost of capital and reduces investment. H.R. 4457 would go a long way to reverse this trend.

Likewise, the other two tax extenders that we are voting on today deal with S corporations or pass-through corporations. These corporations elect not to pay any Federal corporate taxes and, instead, pass corporate income, losses, and deductions and credits through to their shareholders.

H.R. 4453, the Permanent S Corporation Built-in Gains Recognition Period Act of 2014, makes permanent an expired tax break that would enable businesses set up S corporations to shrink the window that they have to hold built-in gains from 10 years to 5.

H.R. 4454, the Permanent S Corporation Charitable Contributions Act of 2014, would make permanent the tax rule requiring an adjustment to the basis of a shareholder's stock in an S corporation if the corporation makes tax-deductible charitable donations.

Recently, the House passed a permanent tax credit for corporate research and development. Sixty-two Democrats voted against the measure. Their reasoning, as far as I can tell, was not against the policy, but it was the fact that the measure was not offset. However, offsets are something in Congress that we need when we are creating new programs or allocating money not previously appropriated, essentially making the American people pay more in taxes. Offsets are unnecessary and not needed when, in fact, we are shielding the American people from being taxed.

Moreover, we heard last night in the Rules Committee, and I suspect we will hear it again today on the floor, about the fact that the two tax-related bills before us today in this rule are not offset. Congress only needs to pay for tax credits if one subscribes to the belief that all money in the country—all money in the country—belongs first to the government rather than the people. I reject this mind-set. Congress does not need to justify or offset not taking more money from the American people; Congress needs to justify and pay for policies that take money from the American people.

Indeed, every member of the Rules Committee on the minority side has voted at least three times to extend these very provisions without having any sort of offset. President Obama, himself, signed those three extensions of these provisions into law, all done without offsets. Senator WYDEN, who has been working on a larger tax extender bill in the Senate has included the same PAYGO language that is included in these bills before us in this legislation. To make hay about this issue, which is truly much ado about nothing, is to play politics with taxpayers and our economy, and the Republican majority in this House will not play along.

In the absence of a larger, comprehensive tax reform package, permanent extenders like these are common sense. They bring back stability and certainty to businesses that are constantly waiting at the end of every calendar year to see if Congress will retroactively act to provide that tax relief.

I encourage my colleagues to vote “yes” on the rule and “yes” on the underlying bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1245

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, the House will adopt yet another closed rule for these two tax extender measures, which will cross a new Rubicon, a new threshold. We are going to break the record for the most closed rules considered by a Congress ever, and we still have 7 months to go.

The graphic that I am holding illustrates that—that we have the most closed Congress ever, which allows, among other things, that we don’t deal with immigration reform, we don’t deal with the minimum wage, we don’t deal with unemployment insurance, we don’t deal with universal gun background checks, we don’t deal with dealing with banning assault weapons. This is a closed Congress.

This may sound like inside baseball, but it is much more than just a procedural agreement. I have seen a lot of rules serving nearly 10 years now on the Rules Committee, but this is a new one. This rule limits debate during the appropriations process. It deems passage of a provision to ignore the deficit that this legislation will create, and it sets an all-time record, as I have shown, for closed rules. We managed to do this yesterday and now have it on the floor all in one rule.

Congress has, as I have said, many important issues it needs to take up, including the things I have shown and reiterate now: immigration reform, raising the minimum wage, and extending unemployment insurance.

2.5 million people in this country are without unemployment insurance. If we were to pass it, it would create 200,000 jobs, and we stand around here and talk about creating jobs all the time.

Closed rules prevent the House from working its will on these measures. That is the way it appears that leadership, what is left of it, wants it to be.

My friends do make some Democratic amendments in order at times. Both parties have used closed rules when they have been in control, and that is true. That is the prerogative of the party controlling the House.

But you can read these closed rules like a roadmap of my friends’ priorities. In general, the only amendments made in order are those that are expected either to pass or fail along party

lines. Over 30 House Republicans and 64 percent of Republican voters polled support immigration reform, but we can’t get a vote. Where is the immigration reform bill? Where is the measure that will allow for us to answer many of the problems that this country is confronted with in reference to immigration reform?

This week, as I have indicated, nearly 3 million Americans have lost emergency unemployment insurance since it expired in December, but we can’t get a vote here on the House of Representatives’ floor.

The Voting Rights Act needs to be reformed in order to protect American voters, but we can’t get a vote in the people’s House. Leadership uses closed rules to prevent the House from working its will because they are worried about undermining their message, more worried about it than actually legislating.

Today’s tax extenders are a perfect example of how these heavy-handed tactics help the chosen few, but leave everyone else without recourse. There are at least 50 other tax extenders that we could have taken into consideration, but no, we choose these six because that is your agenda. Dozens of other provisions that expire at the end of 2017 and several others scheduled to expire at the end of this year have been skipped over in favor of these six extenders favored by businesses that are pretty substantial, and not necessarily the big corporations but many of the large S corporations.

My friends across the aisle have passed up the chance—would you believe this?—to renew the work opportunity tax credit, which helps veterans get back to work, as well as the new markets tax credit, which helps revitalize communities.

How do you do that? They have chosen to ignore renewable energy tax credits and tax credits to help working parents pay for child care. How about that? They have decided there is no reason to extend deductions for teachers’ out-of-pocket expenses, qualified tuition, mortgage insurance premiums, or State and local taxes, a deduction that is critical for Floridians and the people that I represent.

These six extenders will be the only extenders that the House votes on because these are the priorities of my friends across the aisle, priorities that may solidify your message, my friends, particularly your message with your base—and evidently you are confused about that particular matter—but you are more interested in them and assuring that you do nothing to help hard-working Americans.

You are going to use the power of the closed rule to ensure that no other provisions get a vote, and you are going to become the most closed Congress ever, disallowing immigration reform, disallowing a minimum wage increase. There are States that are giving a realistic minimum wage increase to people. You tell me, how it is that people live

on \$7.35 an hour? Many of us have been to food shelters and seen people that are working, many of us have seen people that are living in shelters, working families living in shelters, and we won’t even bring a measure here. Are you afraid to just say “yes” or “no” whether or not Americans ought to have an increase in their minimum wage at the Federal level?

You let 2½ million people don’t have unemployment insurance, can’t meet their obligations, and we are not willing to help them, and you tell me that you will increase—you talk all the time about the deficit, so you are going to increase the deficit with some mumbo jumbo about money if it is not in the hands of, and disallow people that we know, if they were to receive unemployment insurance compensation, that they would spend all of that money and that it would, in fact, create jobs, and it would sustain small businesses if we were to do that.

One presenter in the House yesterday, outstanding in his presentation, a friend from the other side, pointed out that he had come from a hardscrabble life and that his father one time had been on unemployment insurance. I said to him, and I believe it to be true, that you just proved my point. And I asked him did his daddy get a job after he was on unemployment insurance. And his answer was, yes, and I knew that is what it would be. Many people who are on unemployment insurance today, if we were to give them a chance, they would get a job. Get a life, Republicans, give people a chance.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute for the purpose of a response.

In the 111th Congress, the final 2 years of Representative PELOSI’s time as Speaker, 2009 to 2010, this House never considered a single bill under an open rule. Let me state that again: 2009 to 2010, the 111th Congress, Speaker PELOSI was Speaker, the House never considered a single bill under an open rule.

Mr. Speaker, I would submit, that is the definition of a closed process.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

My friend on the other side of the aisle may try to change the subject. Do that if you like. But I ask the gentleman: Is this a new record for closed rules or not? And I answer rhetorically because it is. And I don’t deny that Democrats have used closed rules. I said it in my opening remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas, Judge LLOYD DOGGETT, my good friend.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, across America, for 30 million schoolchildren implementation of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act is working. Schools are literally stepping up to the plate with a plate of healthier food. Indeed, for school lunches in Texas, 99 percent

of Texas school districts are successfully serving meals that meet strong nutritional standards. In most of the schools I visit, 99 percent is an A-plus.

First Lady Michelle Obama has provided impressive leadership in getting students, families, all of us, to pay a little more attention to food quality, to encourage kids to be more physically active, to get moving, and to grow up healthy. Active, healthy kids do better in school, and they grow up to be more productive citizens who can help in moving our country forward.

Today's bill presents the question of whether we are to wave good-bye with a waiver to healthy school lunch standards. This bill that we are about to consider is not the only place where unhealthy congressional action lurks. At the very same moment that the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee was weakening school nutrition standards with a waiver, the House Ways and Means Committee, on which I serve, approved a bill to expand a tax subsidy for "apparently wholesome food." That sounds good. The only problem is that the statutory definition of "apparently wholesome food" does not actually limit itself to the wholesome. It includes Halloween candy, Twinkies, Pop Rocks, stale potato chips, and other expired junk food, all of which receive a taxpayer subsidy. I think that is a little hard to stomach.

In a Nation where one-third of our children are overweight or obese, we should neither be subsidizing junk food nor repackaging healthy school meal standards into less healthy meals.

We are already spending in America an estimated \$245 billion every year on diabetes. Rates of dietary-related Type 2 diabetes are skyrocketing among children and young adults. Since many of our children consume up to half of their daily calories at school through the school lunch and school breakfast programs, their health depends upon the nutritional quality of the food they are served.

Today, we should not take a giant step backwards. Let's join against this push to lower standards for our Nation's children. They deserve the healthiest future possible.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Returning briefly—before I yield to my good friend—to the subject of open and/or closed rules, this is what Speaker BOEHNER promised right here in this Chamber in his own words:

I offer a commitment: Openness, once a tradition of this institution, but increasingly scarce in recent decades, will be the new standard. You will always have the right to a robust debate in an open process that allows you to represent your constituents, to make your case, offer alternatives and be heard.

It is unfortunate that my friends on the other side of the aisle campaigned

telling the country how open and transparent they were going to be, and then when they do the opposite and are called out on it, it is just more excuses.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question I am going to offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 4582, the Bank on Students Emergency Loan Refinancing Act. Mr. TIERNEY, my good friend, authored that bill to help millions of people lower their student loan debt. The bill would allow borrowers to refinance Federal and private student loans to the lowest rates that are currently available to new borrowers.

To discuss this proposal, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY), a distinguished gentleman, my friend and colleague.

□ 1300

Mr. TIERNEY. I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge the House to act on responsible legislation that I have introduced that would help tens of millions of college students, graduates, parents, and middle class families all across the country refinance their existing loans to the same low rate offered to new borrowers in the student loan program.

As the President said earlier this week when he voiced support for this bill, this should be a no-brainer. Homeowners and small businesses are so often able to refinance their debts, there is no reason at all that students and parents shouldn't be able to do the same.

Refinancing would be a significant financial help to these students and their parents. In fact, a recent analysis by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service showed that a middle class undergraduate student with an average loan debt would save more than \$4,000 over the life of that loan. A typical graduate student would save more than \$2,500, and a typical parent who borrowed to pay for their child's education would save \$3,500 or more.

As my colleagues know, these savings would be invested right back into the economy. Last year, the Center for American Progress estimated that refinancing of just some of these Federal loans would pump \$21 billion into the economy.

That is because these people are going to be able to save \$40 to \$100 a month—thousands over the course of their loan—and they have expenses and necessities for which they have to pay.

Our bill is a good deal for taxpayers. Last week, the Congressional Budget Office scored our bill as generating \$72.5 billion in savings over 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, more and more constituents are writing my office, emailing, posting on my Facebook page, and even stopping me on the street to talk about stories about how their children are buried in student loan debt. Two days ago, I received an email from a concerned mother in my district.

This is what she had to say: she and her husband followed the rules and have been able to own their own home and support two children up to adulthood, but she feels that her daughter would not be able to do the same, as she currently owes \$60,000 in college loans.

Her interest rates vary from 6.5 percent to 8.5 percent. She is drowning in her own debt, and she is only 24 years of age.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. TIERNEY. I appreciate that from my colleague.

The reason this mother supports the bill is that she knows it is going to help her daughter pay her loans in a reasonable way, while pursuing other goals this life.

This is really, Mr. Speaker, about whose side are you on. Are we on the side of special interests and allowing them to continue tax favors, while middle class Americans end up lugging around this heavy burden of debt?

I am on the side of that concerned mother and her daughter and others in this country who are concerned about their children's future.

Let's bring this bill to the floor for a vote.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would indicate to my friend from Texas that I am prepared to close. I have no further speakers at this time, and so I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is not all doom and gloom over here. There are provisions in the agriculture appropriation measure that I support.

I appreciate the report language in support of the United States Department of Agriculture's pollinator programs. I, along with others, have been leaders in bringing the subject to the attention of Congress, something of vital interest to all of this Nation.

I have been teased an awful lot about being the "bee man" because I bring up the pollinator issue all the time, but the fact of the matter is, if we don't have bees, we are not going to have food.

I also appreciate the provisions related to citrus greening, which has been devastating to Florida citrus growers, as well as those provisions in this measure that address rural housing.

I represent Belle Glade; South Bay; Canal Point; and Pahokee, Florida; and places where rural housing is really important, but I, along with all of my colleagues—particularly JOE GARCIA, DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and MARIO DIAZ-BALART—have raised the issues with reference to citrus greening. The whole south Florida delegation has been involved in that particular area.

I grew up in the citrus area. I saw the early-on stages of greening. If we don't do something about this particular problem—and this farm appropriations does deal with some of it—then we may have no citrus coming from the State of Florida.

There are a limited number of days left on our legislative calendar, and we have many miles to go before we, as a Congress, have delivered on our obligation to help all Americans.

We absolutely have an obligation to businesspeople, but we also have an obligation to help veterans get work; an obligation to ease the burden on teachers who use their own money to support their students—our students; and an obligation to address forthrightly important issues, including immigration reform and raising the minimum wage and extending unemployment insurance.

We should stop standing around here and thinking that we are doing something when we offer a moment of silence, which is right for victims who have died of gun violence and the grief that is coming through all of those families. You hear them begging for us to do something.

We know that we can't solve all of those problems, but at least we could give them some assurance that we are trying to have universal background checks and that we are willing to ban assault weapons. Why would anybody want an assault weapon, other than a police officer or military person, and why should we permit them to be in their hands?

We won't bring those measures down here to the floor, and we do so at our peril.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" and defeat the previous question, vote "no" on the underlying bills, and certainly vote "no" on this record-setting rule for closed rules, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, first off, I just want to reference something on Speaker JOHN BOEHNER's Web site.

John Boehner took the Speaker's gavel in January of 2011, promising to run a more open U.S. House of Representatives than his predecessor. In the 3½ years since then, Speaker Boehner has made good on that pledge by allowing more amendments and a steady stream of "open rules," while the Democratic-controlled United States Senate, under Majority Leader Harry Reid, has gone in the other direction.

One congressional expert calls open rules, which allow Members to freely offer amendments of essentially any nature during the consideration of a given bill, "essential for

fair consideration of legislation on the House floor.

Under Boehner's leadership, Members on both sides of the aisle have been allowed to offer significantly more amendments, and the House has operated under far more open rules than were allowed under the previous Democratic-controlled House.

The final years of the Pelosi-run House were a tour de force in closed government. During the final 2 years of Representative Pelosi's time as Speaker, the House never considered a single bill under an open rule. Some Members of Congress served their entire House careers under Speaker Pelosi without ever operating under an open rule.

Mr. Speaker, on the issue of so-called immigration reform, the administration has done more to distance and set back any policy in that direction.

Why do I say that? The reason is the unintended effects of their policies to send a message worldwide to those that come here by any method possible, and we will not prosecute, we will not send you back.

As a consequence, we have got an issue on the border of our State in Texas that is, at the same time, both heartbreaking and frightening, with underage children literally being shoved across the border.

Mr. Speaker, what does it say when an 8-year-old child can cross our border illegally? Who else is getting in, if 8-year-olds are able to come across this porous border that the administration has opened up?

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BURGESS. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. I share your concerns as you expressed them with reference to the unaccompanied young people coming to our country, and I don't make any quarrel with you, but I would highlight the fact that it is believed by some that many of the places they are coming from—El Salvador, Guatemala, and Central America—the kids are running because of fright.

I remind you that they already have TSP, and we did that quite some time ago for those Central American countries. We did it, rightly, then.

I just offer that for information, and I thank my colleague for yielding.

Mr. BURGESS. Reclaiming my time, I would just point out that those conditions the gentleman referenced that might cause a child to be frightened existed 4 years ago, existed 3 years ago, but there has been a dramatic change in the past 2 years.

I believe that change is directly attributable to the policies of the administration when they went around the United States Congress to unilaterally alter the United States immigration laws, which specifically, in the Constitution, is a legislative branch requirement.

Mr. Speaker, today's rule provides for the consideration of three important bills: H.R. 4800, the Agriculture Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2015; H.R. 4457, America's Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2014; and H.R. 4453,

the Permanent S Corporation Built-In Gains Recognition Period Act for 2014.

The rule is fair and important for us to move forward on the debate on these pieces of legislation.

The material previously referred to by Mr. HASTINGS of Florida is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 616 OFFERED BY
MR. HASTINGS OF FLORIDA

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 4. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4582) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the refinancing of certain Federal student loans, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 5. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 4582.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT
IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308-311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as "a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge." To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that "the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition" in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: "The previous question having been refused,

the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition."

The Republican majority may say "the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever." But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: "Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment."

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled "Amending Special Rules" states: "a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate." (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: "Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon."

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of adoption of the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 224, nays 194, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 298]

YEAS—224

Aderholt	Bentivolio	Brown (GA)
Amash	Bilirakis	Buchanan
Amodei	Black	Bucshon
Bachmann	Blackburn	Burgess
Bachus	Boustany	Byrne
Barletta	Brady (TX)	Calvert
Barr	Bridenstine	Camp
Barton	Brooks (AL)	Campbell
Benishek	Brooks (IN)	Capito

Carter	Huizenga (MI)	Renacci
Cassidy	Hultgren	Ribble
Chabot	Hunter	Rice (SC)
Chaffetz	Hurt	Rigell
Coble	Issa	Roby
Coffman	Jenkins	Roe (TN)
Cole	Johnson (OH)	Rogers (AL)
Collins (NY)	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (KY)
Conaway	Jolly	Rogers (MI)
Cook	Jones	Rohrabacher
Cotton	Jordan	Rokita
Cramer	Joyce	Rooney
Crawford	Kelly (PA)	Ros-Lehtinen
Crenshaw	King (IA)	Roskam
Culberson	King (NY)	Ross
Daines	Kingston	Rothfus
Davis, Rodney	Kinzinger (IL)	Royce
Denham	Kline	Runyan
Dent	Labrador	Ryan (WI)
DeSantis	Lamborn	Salmon
DesJarlais	Lance	Sanford
Diaz-Balart	Latham	Scalise
Duffy	Latta	Schock
Duncan (SC)	LoBiondo	Schweikert
Duncan (TN)	Long	Scott, Austin
Ellmers	Lucas	Sensenbrenner
Farenthold	Luetkemeyer	Sessions
Fincher	Lummis	Shimkus
Fitzpatrick	Marchant	Shuster
Fleischmann	Marino	Simpson
Fleming	Massie	Smith (MO)
Flores	McAllister	Smith (NE)
Forbes	McCarthy (CA)	Smith (NJ)
Fortenberry	McCauley	Smith (TX)
Fox	McClintock	Southerland
Franks (AZ)	McKeon	Stewart
Frelinghuysen	McKinley	Stivers
Gardner	McMorris	Stockman
Garrett	Rodgers	Stutzman
Gerlach	Meadows	Terry
Gibbs	Meehan	Thompson (PA)
Gibson	Messer	Thornberry
Gingrey (GA)	Mica	Tiberi
Gohmert	Miller (FL)	Tipton
Goodlatte	Miller (MI)	Turner
Gosar	Mullin	Upton
Gowdy	Mulvaney	Valadao
Granger	Murphy (PA)	Wagner
Graves (GA)	Neugebauer	Walberg
Graves (MO)	Noem	Walden
Griffin (AR)	Nugent	Walorski
Griffith (VA)	Nunes	Weber (TX)
Grimm	Olson	Webster (FL)
Guthrie	Palazzo	Westmorum
Hall	Paulsen	Whitfield
Hanna	Pearce	Williams
Harper	Perry	Wilson (SC)
Harris	Petri	Wittman
Hartzer	Pittenger	Wolf
Hastings (WA)	Pitts	Womack
Heck (NV)	Poe (TX)	Woodall
Hensarling	Pompeo	Yoder
Herrera Beutler	Posey	Yoho
Holding	Price (GA)	Young (AK)
Hudson	Reed	Young (IN)
Huelskamp	Reichert	

NAYS—194

Barber	Cohen	Fudge
Barrow (GA)	Connolly	Gabbard
Bass	Conyers	Galleo
Beatty	Cooper	Garamendi
Becerra	Costa	Garcia
Bera (CA)	Courtney	Grayson
Bishop (GA)	Crowley	Green, Al
Bishop (NY)	Cuellar	Green, Gene
Blumenauer	Cummings	Grijalva
Bonamici	Davis (CA)	Gutiérrez
Brady (PA)	Davis, Danny	Hahn
Braley (IA)	DeFazio	Hanabusa
Brown (FL)	DeGette	Hastings (FL)
Brownley (CA)	Delaney	Heck (WA)
Bustos	DeLauro	Higgins
Butterfield	DelBene	Himes
Capps	Deutch	Hinojosa
Capuano	Dingell	Holt
Cárdenas	Doggett	Honda
Carney	Doyle	Horsford
Carson (IN)	Duckworth	Hoyer
Cartwright	Edwards	Huffman
Castor (FL)	Ellison	Israel
Castro (TX)	Engel	Jackson Lee
Chu	Enyart	Jeffries
Cicilline	Eshoo	Johnson (GA)
Clark (MA)	Esty	Johnson, E. B.
Clarke (NY)	Farr	Kaptur
Clay	Fattah	Keating
Cleaver	Foster	Kelly (IL)
Clyburn	Frankel (FL)	Kennedy

Kildee	Moran	Schwartz
Kilmer	Murphy (FL)	Scott (VA)
Kind	Nadler	Scott, David
Kirkpatrick	Napolitano	Serrano
Kuster	Neal	Sewell (AL)
Langevin	Negrete McLeod	Shea-Porter
Larsen (WA)	Nolan	Sherman
Larson (CT)	O'Rourke	Sinema
Lee (CA)	Owens	Sires
Levin	Pallone	Slaughter
Lewis	Pascarell	Smith (WA)
Lipinski	Pastor (AZ)	Speier
Loeb sack	Payne	Swalwell (CA)
Lofgren	Perlmutter	Takano
Lowenthal	Peters (CA)	Thompson (CA)
Lowe	Peters (MI)	Thompson (MS)
Lujan Grisham	Peterson	Tierney
(NM)	Pingree (ME)	Titus
Luján, Ben Ray	Pocan	Tonko
(NM)	Polis	Tsongas
Lynch	Price (NC)	Van Hollen
Maffei	Quigley	Vargas
Maloney	Rahall	Veasey
Carolyn	Richmond	Vela
Maloney, Sean	Roybal-Allard	Velázquez
Matsui	Ruiz	Visclosky
McCarthy (NY)	Ruppersberger	Walz
McCollum	Rush	Wasserman
McDermott	Sánchez, Linda	Schultz
McIntyre	T.	Waters
McNerney	Sanchez, Loretta	Waxman
Meeks	Sarbanes	Welch
Meng	Schakowsky	Wilson (FL)
Michaud	Schiff	Yarmuth
Miller, George	Schneider	
Moore	Schrader	

NOT VOTING—13

Bishop (UT)	Matheson	Pelosi
Cantor	McGovern	Rangel
Collins (GA)	McHenry	Ryan (OH)
LaMalfa	Miller, Gary	
Lankford	Nunnelee	

□ 1341

Mr. HINOJOSA changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mrs. HARTZLER changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 227, noes 189, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 299]

AYES—227

Aderholt	Burgess	Dent
Amash	Byrne	DeSantis
Amodei	Calvert	DesJarlais
Bachmann	Camp	Diaz-Balart
Bachus	Campbell	Duffy
Barber	Capito	Duncan (SC)
Barletta	Carter	Duncan (TN)
Barr	Cassidy	Ellmers
Barton	Chabot	Farenthold
Benishek	Chaffetz	Fincher
Bentivolio	Coble	Fitzpatrick
Bilirakis	Coffman	Fleischmann
Bishop (UT)	Cole	Fleming
Black	Collins (NY)	Flores
Blackburn	Conaway	Forbes
Boustany	Cook	Fortenberry
Brady (TX)	Cotton	Fox
Bridenstine	Cramer	Franks (AZ)
Brooks (AL)	Crawford	Frelinghuysen
Brooks (IN)	Crenshaw	Gardner
Brown (GA)	Culberson	Garrett
Buchanan	Daines	Gerlach
Bucshon	Davis, Rodney	Gibbs

Gibson	Marino	Ross
Gingrey (GA)	Massie	Rothfus
Gohmert	McAllister	Royce
Goodlatte	McCarthy (CA)	Runyan
Gosar	McCaul	Ryan (WI)
Gowdy	McClintock	Salmon
Granger	McIntyre	Sanford
Graves (GA)	McKeon	Scalise
Graves (MO)	McKinley	Schock
Griffin (AR)	McMorris	Schweikert
Griffith (VA)	Rodgers	Scott, Austin
Grimm	Meadows	Sensenbrenner
Guthrie	Meehan	Sessions
Hall	Messer	Shimkus
Hanna	Mica	Shuster
Harper	Miller (FL)	Simpson
Harris	Miller (MI)	Sinema
Hartzler	Mullin	Smith (MO)
Hastings (WA)	Mulvaney	Smith (NE)
Heck (NV)	Murphy (FL)	Smith (NJ)
Hensarling	Murphy (PA)	Smith (TX)
Herrera Beutler	Neugebauer	Southerland
Holding	Noem	Stewart
Hudson	Nugent	Stivers
Huelskamp	Nunes	Stockman
Huizenga (MI)	Olson	Stutzman
Hultgren	Palazzo	Terry
Hunter	Paulsen	Thompson (PA)
Hurt	Pearce	Thornberry
Issa	Perry	Tiberi
Jenkins	Petri	Tipton
Johnson (OH)	Pittenger	Turner
Johnson, Sam	Pitts	Upton
Jolly	Poe (TX)	Valadao
Jones	Pompeo	Wagner
Jordan	Posey	Walberg
Joyce	Price (GA)	Walden
Kelly (PA)	Reed	Walorski
King (IA)	Reichert	Weber (TX)
King (NY)	Renacci	Webster (FL)
Kingston	Ribble	Wenstrup
Kinzinger (IL)	Rice (SC)	Westmoreland
Kline	Rigell	Whitfield
Lamborn	Roby	Williams
Lance	Roe (TN)	Wilson (SC)
Latham	Rogers (AL)	Wittman
Latta	Rogers (KY)	Wolf
LoBiondo	Rogers (MI)	Womack
Long	Rohrabacher	Woodall
Lucas	Rokita	Yoder
Luetkemeyer	Rooney	Yoho
Lummis	Ros-Lehtinen	Young (AK)
Marchant	Roskam	Young (IN)

NOES—189

Barrow (GA)	DeLauro	Keating
Bass	DelBene	Kelly (IL)
Beatty	Deutch	Kennedy
Becerra	Dingell	Kildee
Bera (CA)	Doggett	Kilmer
Bishop (GA)	Doyle	Kind
Bishop (NY)	Duckworth	Kirkpatrick
Blumenauer	Edwards	Kuster
Bonamici	Ellison	Labrador
Brady (PA)	Engel	Langevin
Braley (IA)	Enyart	Larsen (WA)
Brown (FL)	Eshoo	Larson (CT)
Brownley (CA)	Esty	Lee (CA)
Bustos	Farr	Levin
Butterfield	Fattah	Lewis
Capps	Foster	Lipinski
Capuano	Frankel (FL)	Loebsack
Cárdenas	Fudge	Lofgren
Carney	Gabbard	Lowenthal
Carson (IN)	Gallego	Lowey
Cartwright	Garamendi	Lujan Grisham
Castor (FL)	Garcia	(NM)
Castro (TX)	Grayson	Luján, Ben Ray
Chu	Green, Al	(NM)
Ciilline	Green, Gene	Lynch
Clark (MA)	Gutiérrez	Maffei
Clarke (NY)	Hahn	Maloney,
Clay	Hanabusa	Carolyn
Cleaver	Hastings (FL)	Maloney, Sean
Clyburn	Heck (WA)	Matsui
Cohen	Higgins	McCarthy (NY)
Connolly	Himes	McCollum
Conyers	Hinojosa	McDermott
Cooper	Holt	McNerney
Costa	Honda	Meeks
Courtney	Horsford	Meeng
Crowley	Hoyer	Michaud
Cuellar	Huffman	Miller, George
Cummings	Israel	Moore
Davis (CA)	Jackson Lee	Moran
Davis, Danny	Jeffries	Nadler
DeFazio	Johnson (GA)	Napolitano
DeGette	Johnson, E. B.	Neal
Delaney	Kaptur	Negrete McLeod

Nolan	Rush	Thompson (CA)
O'Rourke	Sanchez, Linda	Thompson (MS)
Owens	T.	Tierney
Pallone	Sanchez, Loretta	Titus
Pascarell	Sarbanes	Tonko
Pastor (AZ)	Schakowsky	Tsongas
Payne	Schiff	Van Hollen
Perlmutter	Schneider	Vargas
Peters (CA)	Schrader	Veasey
Peters (MI)	Schwartz	Vela
Peterson	Scott, David	Velázquez
Pingree (ME)	Serrano	Visclosky
Pocan	Sewell (AL)	Walz
Polis	Shea-Porter	Wasserman
Price (NC)	Sherman	Schultz
Quigley	Sires	Waters
Rahall	Slaughter	Waxman
Richmond	Smith (WA)	Welch
Royal-Ballard	Speier	Wilson (FL)
Ruiz	Swalwell (CA)	Yarmuth
Ruppersberger	Takano	

NOT VOTING—15

Cantor	Lankford	Nunnelee
Collins (GA)	Matheson	Pelosi
Denham	McGovern	Rangel
Grijalva	McHenry	Ryan (OH)
LaMalfa	Miller, Gary	Scott (VA)

□ 1348

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 37. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol in commemoration of the Shimon Peres Congressional Gold Medal ceremony.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4800, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 616 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4800.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1351

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the

consideration of the bill (H.R. 4800) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, with Mr. HASTINGS of Washington in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT) and the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to begin consideration of H.R. 4800, making appropriations for FY 2015 for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies. The bill before us is unique in that the programs supported in this bill will impact every American every day of the year.

We support America's farmers and ranchers, who are very vital to our Nation's economy and our health and well-being. We support those at home in need with food and housing and provide rural businesses with low-interest loans and grants to help them sustain local economies. We help others around the world that face starvation and malnutrition. We support research and development in agriculture to improve productivity and stability. We support the oversight of commodity markets, providing confidence for businesses, traders, investors, and the public. We support a safe food supply and safe and effective drugs and devices. We are fortunate this Nation can and does support these vital programs.

The bill before us this afternoon reflects a delicate balance of needs and requirements. We have drafted what I consider a responsible bill for FY 2015 spending levels for the departments and agencies that are under the jurisdiction of the subcommittee. We have had to carefully prioritize the funding in this bill. We have had to make some hard choices about how to limit spending.

I want to thank the gentleman from Kentucky, Chairman ROGERS, for supporting us with a very fair allocation for this bill and for helping us move this bill forward.

I also want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), the subcommittee ranking member. He has been a valuable partner and colleague as we have moved forward with this legislation. I appreciate his commitment. I appreciate his understanding as we have moved forward on a wide variety of programs in this bill, and I sincerely thank him for his help. While I and the other subcommittee members have a wide array of agriculture in our districts, Mr. FARR represents an area sometimes referred to as the "salad bowl of the world."

I want to thank all of the members of the subcommittee for their help, and I also thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), who is the ranking member for the full committee.

I also thank the majority staff for their hard work: Tom O'Brien, Betsy Bina, Pam Miller, Andrew Cooper, and Karen Ratzow.

I also appreciate the professionalism and the cooperation of the minority staff. In particular, I want to thank Martha Foley and Hogan Medlin for their help during all of the long hours spent putting this bill and report together, as well as Rochelle Dornatt, Troy Phillips, and Caitie Whelan of Mr. FARR's staff.

When the subcommittee began the FY15 appropriations process, I asked my colleagues to keep in mind three guiding principles. They were: to ensure the proper use of funds through robust oversight, ensuring the appropriate level of regulation to protect producers and the public, and to ensure funding is targeted to vital programs.

These three principles guided us from the time the President's budget request was first submitted to the subcommittee until this bill was put before the House today. This basic framework helped us set principles and priorities during the 10 budget hearings and oversight hearings that we had throughout the spring, which covered all of USDA's mission area, as well as the Food and Drug Administration, and also included the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

They also formed a framework for us to consider the many requests we received from our colleagues on this bill. In particular, we received more than 3,900 requests from 326 Members to support, reduce, or amend funding levels in the numerous accounts of this bill. Of course we could not meet every request, but we tried to address these requests in a bipartisan manner and in a way that was under the House rules. As such, there are no earmarks included in this bill.

The total funding for this bill is \$142.5 billion. This is \$1.5 billion below the President's request and \$3 billion below the FY14-enacted level. The bill includes \$20.88 billion in discretionary budget authority, which is the same as the FY14-enacted level. Mandatory spending totals \$122 billion, or \$3 billion below the FY14 level. These mandatory funds support USDA's farm, conservation, crop insurance, and nutrition programs.

I would like to briefly mention a few highlights that are in this bill.

We provide \$2.8 billion for agricultural research. We have received many, many letters requesting support for the land-grant colleges and universities. We were able to provide level funding for them. We also provided \$325 million, as requested, for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, which is USDA's premier competitive research grants program.

We provide \$870 million for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Serv-

ice. This agency works to eradicate plant and animal diseases and keeps the bad bugs out of the country. I am pleased to say that we were able to increase funding to combat citrus greening disease and the viral epidemic affecting the hog producers. This funding will supplement the emergency funding that the administration announced last week for research and surveillance purposes.

The bill also includes more than \$1 billion for the Food Safety and Inspection Service. This is approximately the same as the FY14 level, but \$3.8 million above the request. It will maintain more than 8,000 inspectors at more than 6,400 meat, poultry, and egg product facilities across the Nation.

The bill provides \$1.5 billion for the Farm Service Agency, and it does not allow the closure of any county offices. This proposal made no sense when the 2014 farm bill is still being implemented in county offices across the Nation. We also fully fund the various farm loan programs in this bill.

□ 1400

For the Natural Resources Conservation Service, we provide \$869 million to help farmers, ranchers, and private forest land owners conserve and protect their land and increase funding to help rehabilitate small dams.

This bill is the only one of the 12 appropriations bills that truly focuses on rural America. It provides \$2.6 billion for the rural development programs. That includes funding to support \$881 million in business and industry loans, \$1.3 billion in loans for rural water and waste programs, and \$6.2 billion for rural electric and telephone infrastructure. We also provide more than \$1 billion for the single-family direct loan program, \$1.1 billion for rental assistance, and \$30 million for the Mutual and Self-Help program.

This bill includes both discretionary and mandatory funding for USDA's food and nutrition programs.

In particular, it provides \$6.6 billion for the Women, Infants, and Children program. This is \$93 million below the FY14 enacted level, and it is actually \$200 million below the budget request. But I want to be clear about the decreased funding because a declining caseload and large carryover balances from the previous year is why we are doing this. And let me stress that every person who is eligible for the program will be able to receive funding under this funding level in this bill.

The bill includes \$20.5 billion in required mandatory funding for child nutrition programs and \$82.3 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, sometimes referred to as SNAP. This funding level helps support more than 47 million Americans each month.

To support those in time of need in places like Syria, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic, the bill provides \$1.7 billion for overseas food aid. We were able to provide a \$66 million

increase for Food for Peace grants, and \$13 million for the McGovern-Dole Education and Child Nutrition Program offset from savings that we found elsewhere in the bill.

The Food and Drug Administration receives \$2.6 billion in discretionary funding in this bill. This is an increase of \$23 million over the FY14 level. When the user fees are included, FDA will receive \$4.5 billion in FY15.

Within the total, the committee provides a \$25 million increase of the full amount requested for food safety activities in the President's budget, and drug safety activities are increased by \$12 million.

Furthermore, the bill includes \$218 million for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. This is an increase of \$3 million above last year's level and is intended to address information technology needs.

Before I close, I do want to address one issue that has opened up a necessary dialogue in local cafeterias and schools across the Nation. It is the provision that would allow schools to seek a temporary—and let me stress that it is a temporary—waiver from the current school lunch standards if a school district has lost money over the last 6-month period as a result of trying to implement the new regulations.

I have had a constant stream of letters, I have talked to people, received emails, and I have had meetings over the past year with school nutritionists, with the teachers, and the school administrators. I have talked to parents, and I have talked to students, all concerned about the rising cost, the increased waste, and the declining participation in the school lunch program.

To tell the truth, the students have been concerned about the taste, they have been concerned about the variety and the quality of the meals. But, again, we have gone to the school nutritionists, to the teachers, and the administrators who have identified where the real problem is.

This is a real problem in many school districts across the country. Some school districts may not be experiencing this problem, but many, many are across the country. This bill acknowledges the concerns of schools and responds to their requests for a certain amount of flexibility. It only allows schools more time if they need it. In fact, it provides something very similar to the flexibility that USDA recently announced for the whole grain requirements.

The benefits to farmers, ranchers, consumers, businesses, and patients provided in this bill far outweigh any one or two objections a Member may have about this bill. The bill represents our best take on matching needs with limited resources. We have tried to work hard to produce the best bill we possibly can within the resources that we have had to work with in this appropriations process.

I thank the Members for their attention, and I would urge all the Members

June 11, 2014

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

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to support this bipartisan legislation. I floor as we move forward, and I reserve
look forward to passing this bill on the the balance of my time.

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

TITLE I - AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS					
Production, Processing, and Marketing					
Office of the Secretary					
Office of the Secretary.....	5,051	5,086	5,051	---	-35
Office of Tribal Relations.....	498	502	498	---	-4
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination.....	1,496	1,507	1,507	+11	---
Office of Advocacy and Outreach.....	1,209	1,217	1,209	---	-8
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration..	804	809	804	---	-5
Departmental Administration.....	22,786	25,661	22,811	+25	-2,850
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations.....	3,869	3,897	3,869	---	-28
Office of Communications.....	8,065	8,137	5,535	-2,530	-2,602
Total, Office of the Secretary.....	43,778	46,816	41,284	-2,494	-5,532

Executive Operations:					
Office of the Chief Economist.....	16,777	16,854	16,777	---	-77
National Appeals Division.....	12,841	13,430	13,317	+476	-113
Office of Budget and Program Analysis.....	9,064	10,292	9,392	+328	-900
Subtotal, Executive Operations.....	38,682	40,576	39,486	+804	-1,090

Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	44,031	45,199	45,025	+994	-174
Office of the Chief Financial Officer.....	6,213	6,080	6,028	-185	-52
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights....	893	898	898	+5	---
Office of Civil Rights.....	21,400	24,236	24,070	+2,670	-166
Agriculture buildings and facilities and rental payments.....	(233,000)	(64,825)	(54,825)	(-178,175)	(-10,000)
Payments to GSA.....	164,470	---	---	-164,470	---
Department of Homeland Security.....	13,800	---	---	-13,800	---
Building operations and maintenance.....	54,730	64,825	54,825	+95	-10,000
Hazardous materials management.....	3,592	3,600	3,600	+8	---
Office of Inspector General.....	89,902	97,240	97,020	+7,118	-220
Office of the General Counsel.....	41,202	47,567	44,383	+3,181	-3,184
Office of Ethics.....	3,440	3,867	3,440	---	-427
Total, Departmental Administration.....	526,133	380,904	360,059	-166,074	-20,845

Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.....	893	898	898	+5	---
Economic Research Service.....	78,058	83,446	85,784	+7,726	+2,338
National Agricultural Statistics Service.....	161,206	178,999	169,371	+8,165	-9,628
Census of Agriculture.....	(44,545)	(48,044)	(47,842)	(+3,297)	(-202)
Agricultural Research Service:					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,122,482	1,104,403	1,120,253	-2,229	+15,850
Buildings and facilities.....	---	---	155,000	+155,000	+155,000
Total, Agricultural Research Service.....	1,122,482	1,104,403	1,275,253	+152,771	+170,850

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<hr/>					
National Institute of Food and Agriculture:					
Research and education activities.....	772,559	837,747	774,465	+1,906	-63,282
Native American Institutions Endowment Fund.....	(11,880)	(11,880)	(11,880)	---	---
Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Endowment Fund.....	---	(10,000)	---	---	(-10,000)
Extension activities.....	469,191	468,968	467,339	-1,852	-1,629
Integrated activities.....	35,317	28,821	32,000	-3,317	+3,179
<hr/>					
Total, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.....	1,277,067	1,335,536	1,273,804	-3,263	-61,732
<hr/>					
Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.....	893	898	898	+5	---
<hr/>					
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:					
Salaries and expenses.....	821,721	834,341	867,505	+45,784	+33,164
Buildings and facilities.....	3,175	3,175	3,175	---	---
<hr/>					
Total, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.....	824,896	837,516	870,680	+45,784	+33,164
<hr/>					
Agricultural Marketing Service:					
Marketing Services.....	79,914	82,963	81,192	+1,278	-1,771
Standardization activities (user fees) NA.....	(64,000)	(64,000)	(64,000)	---	---
(Limitation on administrative expenses, from fees collected).....	(60,435)	(60,709)	(60,709)	(+274)	---
Funds for strengthening markets, income, and supply (Section 32):					
Permanent, Section 32.....	1,107,000	1,122,000	1,122,000	+15,000	---
Marketing agreements and orders (transfer from section 32).....	(20,056)	(20,317)	(20,056)	---	(-261)
Payments to States and Possessions.....	1,363	1,235	1,235	-128	---
<hr/>					
Total, Agricultural Marketing Service program...	1,248,712	1,266,907	1,265,136	+16,424	-1,771
<hr/>					
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration:					
Salaries and expenses.....	40,261	44,017	43,722	+3,461	-295
Limitation on inspection and weighing services....	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	---	---
<hr/>					
Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety.....	811	816	816	+5	---
Food Safety and Inspection Service.....	1,010,689	1,001,402	1,005,189	-5,500	+3,787
Lab accreditation fees.....	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	---	---
<hr/>					
Total, Production, Processing, and Marketing....	6,231,666	6,175,033	6,290,901	+59,235	+115,868
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AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
<hr/>					
Farm Assistance Programs					
Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.....	893	898	898	+5	---
Farm Service Agency:					
Salaries and expenses.....	1,177,926	1,139,323	1,205,068	+27,142	+65,745
(Transfer from Food for Peace (P.L. 480)).....	(2,735)	(2,528)	(2,528)	(-207)	---
(Transfer from export loans).....	(354)	(354)	(354)	---	---
(Transfer from ACIF).....	(306,998)	(306,998)	(306,998)	---	---
Subtotal, transfers from program accounts.....	(310,087)	(309,880)	(309,880)	(-207)	---
Total, Salaries and expenses.....	(1,488,013)	(1,449,203)	(1,514,948)	(+26,935)	(+65,745)
State mediation grants.....	3,782	3,404	3,404	-378	---
Grassroots source water protection program.....	5,526	---	2,500	-3,026	+2,500
Dairy indemnity program.....	250	500	500	+250	---
Subtotal, Farm Service Agency.....	1,187,484	1,143,227	1,211,472	+23,988	+68,245
Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund (ACIF) Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Farm ownership loans:					
Direct.....	(575,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(+925,000)	---
Guaranteed.....	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	---	---
Subtotal.....	(2,575,000)	(3,500,000)	(3,500,000)	(+925,000)	---
Farm operating loans:					
Direct.....	(1,195,620)	(1,252,004)	(1,252,004)	(+56,384)	---
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	(1,500,000)	(1,393,443)	(1,393,443)	(-106,557)	---
Subtotal.....	(2,695,620)	(2,645,447)	(2,645,447)	(-50,173)	---
Emergency loans.....	(34,658)	(34,667)	(34,667)	(+9)	---
Indian tribe land acquisition loans.....	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	---
Conservation loans:					
Guaranteed.....	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans.....	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
Boll weevil eradication loans.....	(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)	---	---
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(5,527,278)	(6,402,114)	(6,402,114)	(+874,836)	---

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Loan subsidies:					
Farm ownership loans:					
Direct.....	4,428	---	---	-4,428	---
Farm operating loans:					
Direct.....	65,520	63,101	63,101	-2,419	---
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	18,300	14,770	14,770	-3,530	---
Subtotal.....	83,820	77,871	77,871	-5,949	---
Emergency Loans.....	1,698	856	856	-842	---
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans.....	68	---	---	-68	---
Individual development account grants.....	---	2,500	---	---	-2,500
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	90,014	81,227	78,727	-11,287	-2,500
ACIF administrative expenses:					
Salaries and expense (transfer to FSA)....	306,998	306,998	306,998	---	---
Administrative expenses.....	7,721	7,920	7,920	+199	---
Total, ACIF expenses.....	314,719	314,918	314,918	+199	---
Total, Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund...	404,733	396,145	393,645	-11,088	-2,500
(Loan authorization).....	(5,527,278)	(6,402,114)	(6,402,114)	(+874,836)	---
Total, Farm Service Agency.....	1,592,217	1,539,372	1,605,117	+12,900	+65,745
Risk Management Agency:					
Administrative and operating expenses.....	71,496	76,779	77,094	+5,598	+315
Total, Farm Assistance Programs.....	1,664,606	1,617,049	1,683,109	+18,503	+66,060
Corporations					
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:					
Federal crop insurance corporation fund.....	9,502,944	8,666,022	8,666,022	-836,922	---
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:					
Reimbursement for net realized losses.....	12,538,880	9,067,281	9,067,281	-3,471,599	---
Hazardous waste management (limitation on expenses).....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Total, Corporations.....	22,041,824	17,733,303	17,733,303	-4,308,521	---
Total, Title I, Agricultural Programs.....	29,938,096	25,525,385	25,707,313	-4,230,783	+181,928
(By transfer).....	(330,143)	(330,197)	(329,936)	(-207)	(-261)
(Loan authorization).....	(5,527,278)	(6,402,114)	(6,402,114)	(+874,836)	---
(Limitation on administrative expenses)....	(115,435)	(115,709)	(115,709)	(+274)	---

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

TITLE II - CONSERVATION PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.....	893	898	898	+5	---
Natural Resources Conservation Service:					
Conservation operations.....	812,939	814,772	843,053	+30,114	+28,281
Farm Security and Rural Investment program (transfer authority).....	---	(732,819)	---	---	(-732,819)

Total, Public Lands Conservation operations.....	812,939	1,547,591	843,053	+30,114	-704,538
Watershed rehabilitation program.....	12,000	---	25,000	+13,000	+25,000

Total, Natural Resources Conservation Service...	824,939	814,772	868,053	+43,114	+53,281
=====					
Total, Title II, Conservation Programs.....	825,832	815,670	868,951	+43,119	+53,281
=====					
TITLE III - RURAL DEVELOPMENT					
Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development...	893	898	898	+5	---
Rural Development:					
Rural development expenses:					
Salaries and expenses.....	203,424	225,101	224,201	+20,777	-900
(Transfer from RHIF).....	(415,100)	(397,296)	(415,100)	---	(+17,804)
(Transfer from RDLFP).....	(4,439)	(4,249)	(4,439)	---	(+190)
(Transfer from Healthy Foods, HNI).....	---	(750)	---	---	(-750)
(Transfer from RETLP).....	(34,478)	(33,000)	(34,478)	---	(+1,478)
(Transfer from RTB).....	---	---	---	---	---

Subtotal, Transfers from program accounts.....	(454,017)	(435,295)	(454,017)	---	(+18,722)

Total, Rural development expenses.....	(657,441)	(660,396)	(678,218)	(+20,777)	(+17,822)
Rural Housing Service:					
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502).....	(900,000)	(360,000)	(1,042,276)	(+142,276)	(+682,276)
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	---	---

Subtotal, Single family.....	(24,900,000)	(24,360,000)	(25,042,276)	(+142,276)	(+682,276)

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Housing repair (Sec. 504).....	(26,280)	(26,279)	(26,372)	(+92)	(+93)
Rental housing (Sec. 515).....	(28,432)	(28,432)	(28,398)	(-34)	(-34)
Multi-family housing guarantees (Sec. 538).....	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
Site development loans (Sec. 524).....	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Single family housing credit sales.....	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
Self-help housing land develop. (Sec. 523).....	(5,000)	---	(5,000)	---	(+5,000)
Farm Labor Housing (Sec.514).....	(23,855)	(23,854)	(23,602)	(-253)	(-252)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(25,148,567)	(24,603,565)	(25,290,648)	(+142,081)	(+687,083)
Loan subsidies:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502).....	24,480	26,568	76,920	+52,440	+50,352
Housing repair (Sec. 504).....	2,176	3,687	3,700	+1,524	+13
Rental housing (Sec. 515).....	6,656	9,812	9,800	+3,144	-12
Farm labor housing (Sec.514).....	5,656	7,681	7,600	+1,944	-81
Total, Loan subsidies.....	38,968	47,748	98,020	+59,052	+50,272
Farm labor housing grants.....	8,336	8,336	8,336	---	---
RHIF administrative expenses (transfer to RD).....	415,100	397,296	415,100	---	+17,804
Total, Rural Housing Insurance Fund program.....	462,404	453,380	521,456	+59,052	+68,076
(Loan authorization).....	(25,148,567)	(24,603,565)	(25,290,648)	(+142,081)	(+687,083)
Rental assistance program:					
Rental assistance (Sec. 521).....	1,110,000	1,088,500	1,088,500	-21,500	---
Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account:					
Rural housing voucher program.....	12,575	8,000	8,000	-4,575	---
Multi-family housing revitalization program.....	20,000	20,000	20,000	---	---
Total, Multi-family housing revitalization..	32,575	28,000	28,000	-4,575	---
Mutual and self-help housing grants.....	25,000	10,000	30,000	+5,000	+20,000
Rural housing assistance grants.....	32,239	25,000	27,000	-5,239	+2,000
Rural community facilities program account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Community facility:					
Direct.....	(2,200,000)	(2,200,000)	(2,200,000)	---	---
Guaranteed.....	(59,543)	---	(73,222)	(+13,679)	(+73,222)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(2,259,543)	(2,200,000)	(2,273,222)	(+13,679)	(+73,222)

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
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Loan subsidies and grants:					
Community facility:					
Guaranteed.....	3,775	---	3,500	-275	+3,500
Grants.....	13,000	17,000	13,000	---	-4,000
Rural community development initiative....	5,967	---	5,000	-967	+5,000
Economic impact initiative grants.....	5,778	---	5,000	-778	+5,000
Tribal college grants.....	4,000	4,000	4,000	---	---
Total, RCFP Loan subsidies and grants...	32,520	21,000	30,500	-2,020	+9,500
Subtotal, grants and payments.....	89,759	56,000	87,500	-2,259	+31,500
<hr/>					
Total, Rural Housing Service.....	1,694,738	1,625,880	1,725,456	+30,718	+99,576
(Loan authorization).....	(27,408,110)	(26,803,565)	(27,563,870)	(+155,760)	(+760,305)
<hr/>					
Rural Business--Cooperative Service:					
Rural Business Program Account:					
(Guaranteed business and industry loans).....	(958,097)	(590,802)	(880,626)	(-77,471)	(+289,824)
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Guaranteed business and industry subsidy..	66,971	30,190	45,000	-21,971	+14,810
Rural business development grants.....	26,568	---	20,000	-6,568	+20,000
Delta regional authority.....	3,000	---	---	-3,000	---
Total, RBP loan subsidies and grants.....	96,539	30,190	65,000	-31,539	+34,810
Rural Business and Cooperative Grants.....	---	57,500	---	---	-57,500
Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(18,889)	(10,013)	(16,234)	(-2,655)	(+6,221)
Loan subsidy.....	4,082	3,084	5,000	+918	+1,916
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD).....	4,439	4,249	4,439	---	+190
Total, IRP Fund.....	8,521	64,833	9,439	+918	-55,394
<hr/>					
Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(33,077)	(59,456)	(59,456)	(+26,379)	---
Limit cushion of credit interest spending.....	(172,000)	(155,000)	(155,000)	(-17,000)	---
(Rescission).....	-172,000	-155,000	-155,000	+17,000	---

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Rural Cooperative Development Grants:					
Cooperative development.....	5,800	---	5,800	---	+5,800
Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas.....	2,250	2,087	2,500	+250	+413
Grants to assist minority producers.....	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Value-added agricultural product market development.....	15,000	11,000	10,750	-4,250	-250
Total, Rural Cooperative development grants.....	26,050	16,087	22,050	-4,000	+5,963
Rural Microenterprise Investment Program Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	---	(25,683)	---	---	(-25,683)
Loan subsidies and grants.....	---	3,290	---	---	-3,290
Total, Rural Microenterprise Investment.....	---	3,290	---	---	-3,290
Rural Energy for America Program					
(Loan authorization).....	(12,760)	(47,259)	(33,081)	(+20,321)	(-14,178)
Loan subsidy.....	3,500	5,000	3,500	---	-1,500
Grants.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Total, Rural Energy for America Program.....	3,500	10,000	3,500	---	-6,500
Rural Business Investment Program Account					
(Loan authorization).....	---	(39,254)	(39,254)	(+39,254)	---
Loan subsidy.....	---	4,000	4,000	+4,000	---
Grants.....	---	2,000	---	---	-2,000
Total, Rural Business Investment Program.....	---	6,000	4,000	+4,000	-2,000
Healthy Foods, Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative:					
Grants.....	---	12,250	---	---	-12,250
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD).....	---	750	---	---	-750
Total, Healthy Foods, Healthy Neighborhoods.....	---	13,000	---	---	-13,000
Total, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.....	-37,390	-11,600	-51,011	-13,621	-39,411
(Loan authorization).....	(1,022,823)	(772,467)	(1,028,651)	(+5,828)	(+256,184)

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
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Rural Utilities Service:					
Rural water and waste disposal program account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Direct.....	(1,200,000)	(1,200,000)	(1,200,000)	---	---
Guaranteed.....	(50,000)	---	(84,746)	(+34,746)	(+84,746)
Direct loans authorized by P.L. 83-566....	(40,000)	---	---	(-40,000)	---
Total, Loan authorization.....	1,290,000	1,200,000	1,284,746	-5,254	+84,746
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Direct subsidy.....	---	---	---	---	---
Direct loans authorized by PL 83-566.....	---	---	---	---	---
Guaranteed subsidy.....	355	---	500	+145	+500
Water and waste revolving fund.....	1,000	---	1,000	---	+1,000
Water well system grants.....	993	---	993	---	+993
Colonias and AK/HI grants.....	66,500	36,480	66,500	---	+30,020
Water and waste technical assistance.....	19,000	9,120	19,000	---	+9,880
Circuit rider program.....	15,000	7,600	15,000	---	+7,400
Solid waste management grants.....	4,000	4,000	4,000	---	---
High energy cost grants.....	10,000	---	---	-10,000	---
Water and waste disposal grants.....	345,523	246,800	359,900	+14,377	+113,100
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	462,371	304,000	466,893	+4,522	+162,893
Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans					
Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Electric:					
Direct, 5%.....	---	---	---	---	---
Direct, FFB.....	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	---	---
Guaranteed underwriting.....	(500,000)	---	(500,000)	---	(+500,000)
Subtotal, Electric.....	(5,500,000)	(5,000,000)	(5,500,000)	---	(+500,000)
Telecommunications:					
Direct, Treasury rate.....	(690,000)	(345,000)	(690,000)	---	(+345,000)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(6,190,000)	(5,345,000)	(6,190,000)	---	(+845,000)
RETLP administrative expenses (transfer to RD).....	34,478	33,000	34,478	---	+1,478
Total, Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account..	34,478	33,000	34,478	---	+1,478
(Loan authorization).....	(6,190,000)	(5,345,000)	(6,190,000)	---	(+845,000)
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Distance learning, telemedicine, and broadband program:					
Loan authorizations:					
Broadband telecommunications.....	(34,483)	(44,238)	(24,077)	(-10,406)	(-20,161)
Total, Loan authorizations.....	(34,483)	(44,238)	(24,077)	(-10,406)	(-20,161)

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Distance learning and telemedicine:					
Grants.....	24,323	24,950	20,000	-4,323	-4,950
Broadband telecommunications:					
Direct.....	4,500	8,268	4,500	---	-3,768
Grants.....	10,372	20,372	10,372	---	-10,000
Total, Loan subsidies and grants.....	39,195	53,590	34,872	-4,323	-18,718
Total, Rural Utilities Service.....	536,044	390,590	536,243	+199	+145,653
(Loan authorization).....	(7,514,483)	(6,589,238)	(7,498,823)	(-15,660)	(+909,585)
Total, Title III, Rural Development Programs....	2,397,709	2,230,869	2,435,787	+38,078	+204,918
(By transfer).....	(454,017)	(435,295)	(454,017)	---	(+18,722)
(Loan authorization).....	(35,945,416)	(34,165,270)	(36,091,344)	(+145,928)	(+1,926,074)
TITLE IV - DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services.....	811	816	816	+5	---
Food and Nutrition Service:					
Child nutrition programs.....	19,262,957	20,472,000	20,471,795	+1,208,838	-205
School breakfast program equipment grants.....	25,000	35,000	25,000	---	-10,000
Demonstration projects (Summer EBT).....	---	30,000	27,000	+27,000	-3,000
Total, Child nutrition programs.....	19,287,957	20,537,000	20,523,795	+1,235,838	-13,205
Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC).....	6,715,841	6,823,000	6,623,000	-92,841	-200,000
Supplemental nutrition assistance program:					
(Food stamp program).....	79,168,947	79,250,389	79,250,140	+81,193	-249
Reserve.....	3,000,000	5,000,000	3,000,000	---	-2,000,000
FDPIR nutrition education services.....	998	998	998	---	---
Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion.....	---	---	---	---	---
National food consumption survey.....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Nutrition education.....	---	---	---	---	---
FY 2016 (first quarter).....	---	21,064,097	---	---	-21,064,097
Total, Food stamp program.....	82,169,945	105,320,484	82,251,138	+81,193	-23,069,346
Fiscal year 2015.....	(82,169,945)	(84,256,387)	(82,251,138)	(+81,193)	(-2,005,249)
Commodity assistance program:					
Commodity supplemental food program.....	202,682	208,682	208,682	+6,000	---
Farmers market nutrition program.....	16,548	16,548	16,548	---	---
Emergency food assistance program.....	49,401	49,401	49,401	---	---
Pacific island and disaster assistance.....	1,070	1,070	1,070	---	---
Total, Commodity assistance program.....	269,701	275,701	275,701	+6,000	---
Nutrition programs administration.....	141,348	155,000	150,824	+9,476	-4,176
Total, Food and Nutrition Service.....	108,584,792	133,111,185	109,824,458	+1,239,666	-23,286,727
FY 2015.....	(108,584,792)	(112,047,088)	(109,824,458)	(+1,239,666)	(-2,222,630)
Total, Title IV, Domestic Food Programs.....	108,585,603	133,112,001	109,825,274	+1,239,671	-23,286,727
FY 2015.....	(108,584,792)	(112,047,088)	(109,824,458)	(+1,239,666)	(-2,222,630)

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

TITLE V - FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS					
Foreign Agricultural Service					
Salaries and expenses.....	177,863	182,563	182,563	+4,700	---
(Transfer from export loans).....	(6,394)	(6,394)	(6,394)	---	---
Total, Salaries and expenses.....	184,257	188,957	188,957	+4,700	---
Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account, Administrative Expenses					
Farm Service Agency, Salaries and expenses (transfer to FSA).....	2,735	2,528	2,528	-207	---
Unobligated balances (rescission).....	---	-13,000	-13,000	-13,000	---
Food for Peace Title II Grants:					
Expenses.....	1,466,000	1,400,000	1,466,000	---	+66,000
Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Program Account (administrative expenses):					
Salaries and expenses (Export Loans):					
General Sales Manager (transfer to FAS).....	6,394	6,394	6,394	---	---
Farm Service Agency S&E (transfer to FSA).....	354	354	354	---	---
Total, CCC Export Loans Program Account.....	6,748	6,748	6,748	---	---
McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program grants.....	185,126	185,126	198,126	+13,000	+13,000
Total, Title V, Foreign Assistance and Related Programs.....	1,838,472	1,763,965	1,842,965	+4,493	+79,000
(By transfer).....	(6,394)	(6,394)	(6,394)	---	---
=====					
TITLE VI - RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION					
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
Food and Drug Administration					
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation.....	2,551,905	2,575,383	2,574,080	+22,175	-1,303
Prescription drug user fees.....	(760,000)	(798,000)	(798,000)	(+38,000)	---
Medical device user fees.....	(114,833)	(128,282)	(128,282)	(+13,449)	---
Human generic drug user fees.....	(305,996)	(312,116)	(312,116)	(+6,120)	---
Biosimilar biological products user fees.....	(20,716)	(21,014)	(21,014)	(+298)	---
Animal drug user fees.....	(23,600)	(22,464)	(22,464)	(-1,136)	---
Animal generic drug user fees.....	(7,328)	(6,944)	(6,944)	(-384)	---
Tobacco product user fees.....	(534,000)	(566,000)	(566,000)	(+32,000)	---
Food and Feed Recall user fees.....	(12,925)	---	(1,434)	(-11,491)	(+1,434)
Food Reinspection fees.....	(15,367)	---	(6,414)	(-8,953)	(+6,414)
Voluntary qualified importer program fees.....	---	---	(5,300)	(+5,300)	(+5,300)
Subtotal (including user fees).....	(4,346,670)	(4,430,203)	(4,442,048)	(+95,378)	(+11,845)
Mammography user fees.....	(19,318)	(19,705)	(19,705)	(+387)	---
Export and color certification user fees.....	(12,447)	(13,651)	(13,651)	(+1,204)	---
Food and Feed Recall user fees.....	---	(1,434)	---	---	(-1,434)
Food Reinspection fees.....	---	(6,414)	---	---	(-6,414)
Voluntary qualified importer program fees.....	---	(5,300)	---	---	(-5,300)
Pharmacy compounding fees (CBO estimate).....	---	(1,000)	(1,000)	(+1,000)	---
Subtotal, FDA user fees.....	(1,826,530)	(1,902,324)	(1,902,324)	(+75,794)	---
Subtotal, FDA (with user fees).....	(4,378,435)	(4,477,707)	(4,476,404)	(+97,969)	(-1,303)

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

FDA New User Fees (Leg. proposals):					
Food Facility registration and inspection user fees.....	---	(60,120)	---	---	(-60,120)
Food import user fees.....	---	(169,021)	---	---	(-169,021)
International courier user fees.....	---	(5,807)	---	---	(-5,807)
Cosmetic user fees.....	---	(19,457)	---	---	(-19,457)
Food contact substance notification user fees...	---	(5,098)	---	---	(-5,098)

Subtotal, FDA new user fees (Leg. Proposals).....	---	(259,503)	---	---	(-259,503)
Buildings and facilities.....	8,788	8,788	8,788	---	---

Total, FDA (w/user fees, including proposals)...	(4,387,223)	(4,745,998)	(4,485,192)	(+97,969)	(-260,806)
Total, FDA (w/enacted user fees only).....	(4,387,223)	(4,486,495)	(4,485,192)	(+97,969)	(-1,303)
Total, FDA (excluding user fees).....	2,560,693	2,584,171	2,582,868	+22,175	-1,303
=====					
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	215,000	280,000	217,578	+2,578	-62,422
Farm Credit Administration (limitation on administrative expenses).....	(62,600)	(65,100)	(54,000)	(-8,600)	(-11,100)
=====					
Total, Title VI, Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration.....	2,775,693	2,864,171	2,800,446	+24,753	-63,725
=====					
TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Emergency livestock assistance program (rescission) (Sec. 709).....	---	-125,000	-125,000	-125,000	---
Limit Dam Rehab (Sec.717(1)).....	-153,000	---	-50,000	+103,000	-50,000
(rescission).....	---	-153,000	---	---	+153,000
Limit Environmental Quality Incentives (Sec.717(2))..	-272,000	-250,000	-95,000	+177,000	+155,000
Limit Agricultural Easement Program (Sec.717(3)).....	---	---	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000
Limit Conservation Stewardship Program (Sec.717(4))..	---	---	-31,000	-31,000	-31,000
Limit Biomass Crop Assistance Program (Sec.717(5))....	---	---	-10,000	-10,000	-10,000
Limit Rural Energy for America Program (Sec.717(6))...	---	---	-16,000	-16,000	-16,000
Limit Biorefinery Assistance (Sec.717(7)).....	---	---	-24,000	-24,000	-24,000
Limit fruit and vegetable program (Sec.718).....	-119,000	-122,000	-122,000	-3,000	---
Section 32 (rescission) (Sec.718).....	-189,000	-203,000	-121,000	+68,000	+82,000
Resource Conservation and Development (rescission) ...	-2,017	---	---	+2,017	---
Geographic Disadvantaged farmers	1,996	---	---	-1,996	---
Hardwood Trees (Reforestation Pilot Program).....	600	---	---	-600	---
Agriculture Buildings and Facilities and Rental Payments (rescission)	-30,000	---	---	+30,000	---
Rural Housing Service (rescission)	-1,314	---	---	+1,314	---
Section 9005 Bioenergy program (rescission).....	-8,000	---	---	+8,000	---
Water Bank program	4,000	---	---	-4,000	---
Section 9003 Biorefinery program (rescission).....	-40,694	---	---	+40,694	---
Hunger Commission	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
FDA user fees	79,000	---	---	-79,000	---
Citrus greening (APHIS)	20,000	---	---	-20,000	---
Southwest Border Regional Commission.....	---	2,000	---	---	-2,000
=====					
Total, Title VII, General provisions.....	-708,429	-851,000	-624,000	+84,429	+227,000
=====					
Grand total	145,652,976	165,461,061	142,856,736	-2,796,240	-22,604,325
Appropriations fiscal year 2015.....	(146,096,001)	(145,045,964)	(143,270,736)	(-2,825,265)	(-1,775,228)
Rescissions.....	(-443,025)	(-649,000)	(-414,000)	(+29,025)	(+235,000)
Advance appropriations, FY 2016.....	---	(21,064,097)	---	---	(-21,064,097)
(By transfer).....	(790,554)	(771,886)	(790,347)	(-207)	(+18,461)
(Loan authorization).....	(41,472,694)	(40,567,384)	(42,493,458)	(+1,020,764)	(+1,926,074)
(Limitation on administrative expenses).....	(178,035)	(180,809)	(169,709)	(-8,326)	(-11,100)
=====					

AGRICULTURE-RURAL DEVELOPMENT-FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS (H.R. 4800)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Request	Bill	Bill vs. Enacted	Bill vs. Request

RECAPITULATION					
Title I - Agricultural programs.....	29,938,096	25,525,385	25,707,313	-4,230,783	+181,928
Mandatory.....	(23,149,074)	(18,855,803)	(18,855,803)	(-4,293,271)	---
Discretionary.....	(6,789,022)	(6,669,582)	(6,851,510)	(+62,488)	(+181,928)
Title II - Conservation programs (discretionary).....	825,832	815,670	868,951	+43,119	+53,281
Title III - Rural development (discretionary).....	2,397,709	2,230,869	2,435,787	+38,078	+204,918
Title IV - Domestic food programs	108,585,603	133,112,001	109,825,274	+1,239,671	-23,286,727
Mandatory.....	(101,432,902)	(125,787,484)	(102,722,933)	(+1,290,031)	(-23,064,551)
Discretionary.....	(7,152,701)	(7,324,517)	(7,102,341)	(-50,360)	(-222,176)
Title V - Foreign assistance and related programs (discretionary).....	1,838,472	1,763,965	1,842,965	+4,493	+79,000
Title VI - Related agencies and Food and Drug Administration (discretionary).....	2,775,693	2,864,171	2,800,446	+24,753	-63,725
Title VII - General provisions (discretionary).....	-708,429	-851,000	-624,000	+84,429	+227,000
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total	145,652,976	165,461,061	142,856,736	-2,796,240	-22,604,325
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise having cosponsored this bill as the ranking member on the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. I have to say that I think we have worked very well together. We have worked together as chair and ranking member over a period of time. It is an interesting perspective. I think we have crossed the cultural divide when a Californian can understand the language of an Alabaman, and we have become friends.

I have to say that probably 90 percent of this bill is something we all agree on. Ten percent is what we don't agree on, and it is a horrible 10 percent—a big 10 percent. The bill allocates \$20.8 billion, which is the same as what we came up with last year in the conference level.

I appreciate the working relationship that Mr. ADERHOLT already outlined and the wonderful staff that both his office and I have, and my office and the committee has. We all work well together as a team. So we bring this bill to the floor today.

It is quite a privilege to be able to have this position, and I think that we all understand the privilege, because the USDA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which is our main focus, in addition to the Food and Drug Administration, and to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the Department of Agriculture, many people don't understand, was created during the Civil War by Abraham Lincoln. It was a department that needed to be created as the United States was facing the Western expansion. Abraham Lincoln was very insightful in realizing that people who moved out into the boonies needed help. There is no infrastructure there. There is nothing there. It became kind of a home ec department. And to this day, the Department of Agriculture still has a division of rural water, a division of rural housing, farmworker housing, and of rural telecommunications.

It is obviously involved with all the science research in agriculture and a big research section. The USDA has a specialist in almost every county in the United States and almost every country in the world, as we have ag advisers in all of our Embassies.

It is an awesome responsibility to govern a very complex system of trade and balances, of phytosanitary inspections, of fighting diseases that get into this country. And it is a lot of fun, also, and I think that is why we get along well trying to put together a good bill.

Now, I voted against this bill in committee because of the concerns of several aspects. Among these concerns are two highly objectionable nutrition riders. I am really concerned that the bill would allow school food authorities to get waivers from complying with the improved lunch and breakfast nutrition standards in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, which we enacted in

2010. The bill would allow them to get waivers if they show they are operating at a net loss.

I believe that rather than going backwards and serving children in some schools less healthy meals, we should be encouraging the USDA to continue giving schools the technical assistance they need to meet the standards. We should also be encouraging USDA to continue providing flexibility, where warranted, in meeting nutritional standards. The approach in this bill, however, is unacceptable.

Second, despite the recommendations of the medical community indicating that consumption of starchy vegetables meets or exceeds recommended amounts, and the food in-take data showing that white potatoes are the most widely used vegetables and therefore by law or by statute have been excluded from the WIC program, where you get vouchers to buy fresh fruits and vegetables, this bill allows white potatoes to be purchased under that program. It is not necessary at all. The white potato lobby is a very effective lobby.

I am troubled by the inclusion of this bill requiring white potatoes be eligible for purchase in the WIC program. The WIC program, as I said, gives supplemental nutrition through specified foods, and white potatoes is not one of them. So there are some real concerns with this bill. This is the first time that Congress has dictated as to what has to be purchased with those vouchers, and we have never before mandated an inclusion of a specific food item in the WIC food package in the history of the program.

While the funding levels in this bill are, in general, acceptable, there are some exceptions. The most notable to that is the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. This is a Commission that reviews about \$300 trillion in trade. That is almost \$1 trillion a day. And what we do is provide funding to have the referees so that they know when the trading is being fair or not fair, and it is essentially a review process, but they need money to hire those referees, as we call them. The President asked for \$62 million more than we are allowing him to have to fill the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. Those are big concerns.

On the positive side, the bill restores the Food for Peace funding to 2014 levels. It increases the McGovern-Dole program by \$13 million over the 2014 levels. But I am also concerned that in these programs there is an exclusion of important reforms that would have furthered the impact of each dollar spent on food aid.

Given the high level of need, our food aid has to be as cost effective and as efficient as possible, so I am disappointed that food aid reforms enabling more people to be fed at lower cost were not included in the bill.

I would like to say that you are going to hear a lot of my colleagues

raise issues on some of these issues because it is very important that we try to get it right and hopefully defeat some of the bad provisions that are in this bill.

Food is peace. America leads the world in food assistance. California is the number one agriculture State in the Union. I am proud to be the ranking member in bringing this bill to the floor for healthy debate.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) the chairman of the full committee.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of this bill. This is the fifth of the twelve 2015 appropriations cycle bills. It provides \$20.9 billion in discretionary funding for important agriculture, rural development, and FDA programs.

With this legislation, we ensure America's farmers and ranchers—who contribute billions to our economy, as well as create jobs and put food on our tables—have the resources they need to continue to remain successful.

We have provided responsible funding for programs that work to stop crop, plant, and animal disease that can cripple U.S. producers and entire industries. Funding is also directed to programs that help conserve and protect farmland, and improve water quality and food safety.

In addition, this bill also provides funding for infrastructure development, housing loans and rental assistance, and economic opportunities for America's rural communities. These vital loans and programs help foster an environment for economic growth and will help rural America thrive.

The committee also prioritized the safety of our Nation's food and drug supply, targeting increases to FDA food and drug safety activities.

The funding in this bill will maintain 8,000 inspection personnel for meat, poultry, and egg products and facilities across the Nation.

I am also pleased that we have included language that forces the FDA to develop more robust guidelines for abuse-deterrent opioid pill formulations. We withhold \$20 million from the Commissioner's office until these long-overdue regulations are finalized, because the drugs on the market that are not abuse-deterrent result in opioid addictions, overdoses, and deaths. They need to be corrected.

□ 1415

Prescription drug abuse is a scourge on this Nation, and FDA can and should be doing more to battle this epidemic.

Beyond funding these critical USDA and FDA programs, the bill also includes funding for a variety of nutrition programs, making sure our most vulnerable, including our children and elderly, don't go hungry.

The discretionary funding level in this bill is about the same as last year,

which is a testament to the hard work of this subcommittee to find savings wherever possible to make that possible. Each and every program within this bill has been closely examined to help make the best decisions about where to direct tax dollars and where to trim funding.

The bill also makes strides to make these programs more efficient, more effective, and more useful for the American people and strengthens congressional oversight, particularly where it comes to mandatory spending on important nutrition programs.

For example, within SNAP, formerly called food stamps, we have required the enforcement of a ban on certain outreach with foreign governments and implemented protocols to help weed out waste, fraud, and abuse.

Mr. Chairman, the bill before us today is a commonsense bill that makes every step to adequately fund important agricultural programs, to support our most vulnerable citizens, and to act with fiscal restraint.

I want to thank Chairman ADERHOLT, Ranking Member FARR, the subcommittee members, and their staffs for all they did to achieve this very good bill. It was not easy because the allocation they had was not perfect, but they made do with it, and they made do well. I want to thank them for their hard work and congratulate them on a good bill. I urge unanimous support for the bill.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), the ranking member of the full committee.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the efforts of the chairman and the ranking member in putting together this bill. While many of the funding decisions are appropriate, I do oppose this bill because I have deep objections to controversial riders.

First, this bill would begin to back away from much-needed efforts to make school meals healthier. According to the CDC, as of 2012, more than one-third of children and adolescents were obese.

Obese children are more likely to become obese adults, and thus are at a much greater risk of developing heart diseases, type 2 diabetes, stroke, and forms of cancer. Schools should support and teach healthy eating habits.

Instead of providing waivers, this bill should help the districts meet this higher standard by providing the technical assistance and training to become compliant.

Additionally, bill language would make white potatoes eligible for purchase by WIC participants, which is inconsistent with the purpose of the WIC program to include only foods based on documented nutritional deficiencies.

White potatoes are excluded today based on the best available science, and science, not special interests, should continue to be the guide for WIC's policies.

The majority should have fully embraced the work and purpose of the

Commodity Futures Trading Commission and fully funded the administration's request. I am also concerned that the bill provides only half of the requested funds to expand and improve oversight of drug compounding to ensure products are safe and effective.

I thank the chairman for working with me to ensure that the summer feeding pilot program remains open to children in rural and urban areas and adding report language related to sunscreen ingredients, sprays, and high SPF products.

I very much support the additional \$13 million in funding for the McGovern-Dole food aid program and the restoration of funding for the Food for Peace program.

However, the bill should have also included the administration's proposal to allow up to 25 percent of title II resources to be made available in cash for emergencies to better respond to multiple, high-level crises around the world. This change alone would have allowed U.S. aid to reach an estimated 2 million more people in chronically food-insecure communities.

The bill provides sufficient funds for nutritional assistance programs, such as WIC and SNAP, and provides needed discretionary funds for food safety programs within FDA and the Food Safety and Inspection Service.

It is my sincere hope that we can improve these shortcomings before a bill is signed into law.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD).

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Chairman, I rise to engage in an important colloquy with Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman ADERHOLT of Alabama and the ranking member of the Livestock Subcommittee on the House Ag Committee, Mr. COSTA of California, regarding the issue of mandatory country of origin labeling, or COOL, for beef, pork, and poultry.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, I strongly support discontinuing the overreaching country of origin labeling regulations that not only burden our Nation's livestock industry, but threaten massive retaliatory tariffs from Canada and Mexico on a vast range of U.S. industry and products.

I appreciate your work in the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee to include a directive in the bill's report language requiring USDA to discontinue enforcement of COOL, should the WTO compliance panel rule against the United States when they make their decision in a few weeks.

However, I believe the final appropriations bill should include the strongest language possible to prevent any further harm to the livestock industry and all industries threatened on the retaliatory trade list.

COOL represents yet another failed policy of the Federal Government, imposing costly and burdensome mandates on private sector industry. While the primary goal of COOL is to give

American-grown meat a competitive advantage, the result has been exactly the opposite.

As a direct result of this policy, we are not only seeing sharp increases in the cost of marketing and selling beef and pork, but trade retaliation from our closest trading partners will cost us billions of dollars in trade, which will kill U.S. jobs, harm our competitiveness, and have a long-term negative impact on American industry.

As you prepare for conference, I hope we can work together to make sure the final bill provides the most appropriate response to this problem.

With that, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA).

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Chairman, we are again, I think, missing an opportunity with regard to the country of origin labeling, otherwise referred to as COOL.

COOL has proven, as Mr. CRAWFORD has stated, to be a failed experiment. We are seeing an increased cost to ranchers and processors in order to comply with these regulations that are ultimately passed on to the consumers and to make it more difficult to provide the separate lines of animal source from different countries to fulfill the intent of the law.

This program has added nothing but cost to the cattle industry in America, and it is time where we make an attempt to deal with these added costs.

To be totally honest, we don't even know what the actual costs to the industry are. Its producers and processors have had difficulty putting together a formal economic impact, so an analysis has never yet been done.

Finally—and probably more important—it is threatening to the trade relationship with our two biggest markets in the export of U.S. beef, pork, and chicken, which is Canada and Mexico.

Should, as we all assume, the WTO rule against the United States, we will face harsh retaliatory efforts against the products produced here and we are trying to encourage, not only in my home State of California, but in America.

No one wants to see retaliatory efforts made by Canada or Mexico. I know, in talking with producers and people in the industry in Canada and Mexico, they don't want to pursue retaliatory efforts.

We have the data and the studies and the WTO experience to show that it is time that we fix COOL. We want to see this problem resolved, and we want to work together to do it. Hopefully, we will use this legislation to do just that.

Mr. Chairman, we hope you will work with us to provide relief in the event the World Trade Organization does rule against the United States.

Mr. CRAWFORD. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I assure the gentleman from California that I will be committed to working with both he and Mr. CRAWFORD as we continue on this issue. I agree with my

colleagues that the final WTO ruling on the pending COOL case could bring irreparable harm to various U.S. industries.

As has been noted, report language has been included expressing the committee's concern that U.S. exports to Mexico and Canada will suffer an economic impact of approximately \$2 billion in retaliatory tariffs. The report directs USDA not to implement or enforce the COOL final rule for meat labeling, should the WTO issue a final ruling against the United States.

Again, I can assure both of my colleagues here this afternoon that it is my intention to protect our domestic industries from retaliation. We will closely monitor the progress of the WTO in this matter and will respond as necessary, so that our U.S. economy does not suffer.

I thank the gentleman for the opportunity to discuss this important issue with both of you, and I look forward to working with both of you as we move forward.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD), the second generation of congresspersons from the Roybal family.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to provisions in this bill that undermine nutrition standards for school meals and the WIC program. Nutrition programs that support balanced diets are vital tools in protecting against childhood hunger and reducing childhood obesity.

While I appreciate Chairman ADERHOLT's efforts to fully fund childhood nutrition programs, I strongly oppose this bill because it weakens, unnecessarily, Federal child nutrition standards; rather than allowing USDA to work with schools to help them meet healthier nutrition criteria, this bill undermines the national school meal program by allowing a blanket waiver to any school that says it can't meet the new standards.

In addition, the bill adds white potatoes to the WIC food package, ignoring research findings that white potatoes are already consumed above recommended levels and should not compete with other fruits and vegetables for limited WIC vouchers.

Mr. Chairman, we have an obesity crisis in our country, and our Nation's children and families are best served when Federal nutrition standards are guided by science. Now is not the time to lower the benchmarks that protect our children's health now and in the future.

I urge my colleagues to support amendments that remove these damaging riders to the bill.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, at this time, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. WENSTRUP).

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate your and the committee's hard work on crafting the agriculture appro-

priations bill on the floor today. It is a bill that supports American farmers, protects the safety of our food, keeps rural America vibrant, and ensures that our taxpayer dollars are being used efficiently and effectively.

I also want to thank you and the committee's continued support for an issue that is very important to my constituents of the Second District of Ohio, the Asian long-horned beetle. This pest, also known as ALB, is one of the most destructive, invasive species that has entered the United States.

These beetles have been discovered in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Illinois, and they were first seen in my district in 2012. Mr. Chairman, ALB is devastating our trees. These insects burrow themselves into the heartwood of our trees, where they lay larvae and feast off the wood.

As a result, trees in my community are dying or becoming so structurally weak that they are unsafe to even be near them. This doesn't just affect one type of tree, unfortunately, but over a dozen different species.

Eradicating this infestation is extremely important to me and my constituents. Unfortunately, the infestation has already come at a very high cost. To date, roughly 43,000 trees have been removed in Clermont County of Ohio, due to the Asian long-horned beetle, including over 30,000 trees that have not even yet been infested.

This is 43,000 less trees that can no longer provide shade on a sunny day or protect against erosion; not to mention, this infestation and tree removal is directly impacting the property values of homeowners.

Currently, cutting down and removing trees is the most common method used to eradicate these beetles. My constituents are having their trees removed from their own private properties, turning front yards into lumber yards.

Mr. Chairman, I ask that you insert language into the conference report that would encourage the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture to support alternative methods to tree removal to combat the Asian long-horned beetle.

Thank you, and I appreciate your past and continued efforts to eradicate this destructive pest.

□ 1430

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this agriculture funding bill. Budgeting is about choices, and this bill makes the wrong choices for the American people.

Time and again in this legislation the House majority has chosen to put profits and politics before nutrition and food safety. It puts partisan ideology before impartial science, and the interests of big corporate industries over the needs of families and children.

Examples: for decades our Federal nutrition policies have been based on

the principle of sound scientific research and evidence-based decision-making. Until now, Congress has never prescribed the details of Federal nutrition programs. This bill circumvents the Institute of Medicine process for determining the appropriate foods to offer in the Supplemental Women, Infants, and Children program, or the WIC package.

To benefit industry, the House majority adds white potatoes to WIC, despite the advice and findings of nutritionists that white potatoes are not lacking in a mother's and children's diets. In fact, they are the most consumed vegetable in America. This is the same type of thinking from Congress that got pizza called a vegetable.

Further, this bill would waive requirements for schools to meet the nutrition standards that we passed as part of the 2010 Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act. These standards, developed by experts, improve school meals, remove unhealthy junk foods in our Nation's schools. The standards have already been achieved at over 90 percent of America's schools and are working to help kids choose healthier food options. House Republicans are trying to appease special interests by weakening child nutrition programs in this bill.

The bill also undermines menu labeling and creates carve-outs for industries at the expense of health. It assumes a passage of an accelerated and unsafe poultry inspection system that increases the chance of contaminated chicken on our kitchen tables just so companies can make more profit.

At a time when foodborne illness outbreaks are a continual challenge, it cuts the Food Safety and Inspection Service, a linchpin of our food safety efforts, by \$6 million, putting families at risk, and no permanent inspectors will be able to be hired.

This bill dangerously underfunds the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. It allows risky financial transactions to continue, putting the profits of Wall Street ahead of consumers.

These are all unprecedented attempts to use the appropriations process to do the bidding of industry and special interests at the expense of the public interest.

Our job—our job—is to craft a budget that does right by the American people, that helps kids get the nutrition that they need to grow, that fights hunger in all of our communities, and that ensures that our food supply is safe. This budget fails in all of these regards, and I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey, Dr. HOLT.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the nutrition standards for school meals and in strong opposition to the waivers to those standards in this legislation that would result in schools providing nutritionally deficient meals.

Federal child nutrition programs help alleviate hunger and poor nutrition, and were it not for these programs, many students would not receive enough to eat. In New Jersey alone, my home State, the number of children who were eligible for free and reduced school meals increased by 22 percent in the past 5 years to a total that now exceeds half a million children.

According to a study from Harvard released earlier this year, because of the nutrition standards, children are eating more fruits and vegetables. These standards are working, and they are helping children receive better nutrition.

We knew a decade ago that almost half of school lunches were based on prepackaged foods high in calories and fat and salt. Many schools did not offer fruits and vegetables as part of their meals. Congress acted and raised the standards. Healthy children are the source of our country's well-being. The effects of these new standards last long after the children leave school.

At a time when one in three American children is overweight or obese, school nutrition standards can reduce the long-term health costs. And at a time when medical costs are growing ever higher, we should be thinking of ways to reduce health care costs, especially by encouraging more healthful living. We should support Mr. FARR's amendment when he brings it up that would retain, in this bill, the good nutritional standards.

Almost all schools are meeting the new standards now. The USDA has provided flexibility to schools to allow schools to successfully implement the standards, and that is reflected in the high adoption rate among schools across the Nation.

Through the Farm to School Program that I helped write in the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act, Hopewell Elementary School, for example, in my district is providing more local produce on their menu. This is helping the kids learn about healthy eating, learn where our food comes from—not a package or a box, but from the ground and from farmers. We should give them the best nutrition.

Congress should continue to ensure that schools have the resources to meet the standards, not to lower the standards or exempt schools from them.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chair, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlelady from New Mexico (Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM).

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in opposition to the language in this bill that rolls back standards that ensure our children are being fed nutritious foods at school.

As a former State health secretary, I want to refocus this debate where I

think it belongs, and that is on health. What we are really talking about here is the health of our children. More than one-third of children and adolescents are overweight or obese, and more than 2 million adolescents are prediabetic.

Mr. Chair, children who learn to eat nutritious food are more likely to continue those healthy habits as adults. The best place to teach children about healthy eating is where they spend most of their time—in school.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues concerned about the cost of nutritious food to think about the cost of obesity and malnutrition and to think about our children's future. My colleagues say that it is too hard, that children really don't like healthy foods. I agree that making change isn't easy, but we are going to have to invest some time and energy into teaching our children to make healthy choices. That is a change worth making.

I thank the gentleman from California, who has been a real leader on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support his efforts to fix the bill.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chair, I would like to thank my colleague from Alabama for his leadership on this issue.

This is an issue where I think we all agree. We want children in this country to eat healthier. We all want to fight childhood obesity. But I come up to this podium in opposition to this amendment because I am a parent. I have three kids in public schools. I coach youth football. I coach Little League. I talk to children. I have talked to superintendents and principals in central Illinois about this problem. And it is not just a problem that Washington can solve, but it is a problem that Washington created that we need to fix.

There is a lot of plate waste. You look at a recent Los Angeles Times article, upwards of \$20 million per year the Los Angeles, California, school district is losing to plate waste. 1.2 million less children in this country are participating in the school lunch program, the school nutrition program.

In my district, schools like Monticello, Illinois, have pulled out of the school nutrition program because they were losing upwards of \$100,000 a year to comply with regulations that were thought of in a concrete building in Washington, D.C., rather than rural America.

Now, what have we done?

We have asked Secretary Vilsack to offer some flexibility to schools like Monticello so that more kids will participate and that school district doesn't have to choose between following the rules and regulations set forth in Washington, D.C., and choosing to hire two teachers.

We have asked the White House and the USDA to voluntarily comply with the same rules and regulations that

every school nutrition program, every school cafeteria in this country has to comply with. No answer.

We have offered for Secretary Vilsack to come visit the school districts that have talked to me about this being a burden and a problem financially for them. Still no answer.

Giving schools flexibility does not mean that I want kids to eat unhealthy. It means parents and local schools districts know better how to feed our children rather than bureaucrats in Washington, D.C.

I am going to continue to advocate for more flexibility for these regulations so that we don't lose more than the 1.2 million children that should be participating in the school lunch program.

What I want to know is why this administration and why the USDA fails to recognize that there is a problem in rural America and a problem in our urban schools when it comes to money that could be better spent educating our children in this great country.

Support this legislation. Do not support this amendment.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time each side has remaining?

The CHAIR. The gentleman from California (Mr. FARR) has 12½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. HOLT) has 3½ minutes remaining.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), the author of the Child Nutrition Act. He probably knows more about child nutrition than anybody in Congress.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Chair, these are not regulations that were written in Washington, D.C. These are regulations that were written in cooperation with school food service personnel, superintendents and teachers and school districts all over the country.

After many years of deliberation, we have continued to improve this program. Plate waste is less now than it was before. What we have discovered is, if children can select what they wanted to eat from a healthy menu, where we didn't have to worry that they were just selecting high-sugar content and high-salt content, they were eating what they liked, what they became familiar with, plate waste went down.

The purpose of this program is not to increase the profits of food processors or the agribusiness industry in this country. The purpose of this program is to improve the nutrition of children in our schools. Why? Because we understand that nutrition is directly connected to how well those children do in the classroom, not because I say so, not because the Secretary of Education says so or the Secretary of Agriculture, but because classroom teachers will tell you that if children don't have nutrition in the morning, if there is not food in their homes and they come to

school, they start to act out in class because they start to drift. And the fact is the school breakfast program has made a remarkable difference. The school lunch program has made a remarkable difference in children not acting out in class and children being able to concentrate and to perform better, to get better grades, to graduate from high school. It is directly connected.

Now what we see is that industry thinks that this is simply some kind of marketing system for their products. It is like white potatoes aren't available to poor people, white potatoes aren't available to people on food stamps, white potatoes aren't available in America. Yes, they are. But in the WIC program, it is directly related to the health of that mother, the fetus, the newborn infant, and the young child. We have to think about what a healthy meal means to the healthy development of that child. A surplus of white potatoes in that diet is not necessarily what you want to have happen.

In that schoolroom, what we want is good nutrition. We are not going to let that be dictated by the industry. The idea that somehow school districts can't comply, well, 90 percent have complied, and 90 percent have complied within the additional amount of money that the Federal Government made available so they could comply.

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The Secretary has been reaching out to those districts in trouble, and I suggest those districts reach out to other districts in their area that are complying and finding this to be helpful. This isn't some big burden by the Federal Government. This is working in 90 percent of the districts.

Our own School Nutrition Association of California is against this waiver. We have very creative people. In our committee, we brought those people in and we talked about plate waste, we talked about flexibility, and that was incorporated in this legislation when it became the law of the land.

So on the whim and the misinformation that somehow it is not working, somehow it is impossible to do, I will stand with 90 percent of the districts and school food service people who are implementing it. I will stand with the health officials. I will stand with the teachers that understand what a difference it means to have healthy and nutritious food available to these children during the school day.

We have got to support the Farr amendment. We have got to take care of our children. We have got to give them an opportunity to learn in our schools, and good nutrition provides that opportunity. Bad nutrition interrupts that opportunity.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. And the time is expired for this kind of legislation.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I know this has been a controversial issue in this bill. I sincerely think that everybody in this House is well-intentioned about kids' meals, so I in no way want to say the other side is trying to hurt the schoolchildren. To indicate that the Republicans are trying to hurt the school kids is a complete misreading on what the Republicans are trying to do and what we are trying to do in this bill.

There are so many good intentions about this. I think what has happened is, a lot of the regulations as they have come down to a lot of these school districts, every school district is different, and it is hard to have a cookie cutter mentality in every school district in the Nation. That is really what makes this Nation. We are many States but we are one Nation, and they are not all the same.

What this legislation would do with just some commonsense standards—and I by no means say that my colleagues have bad intentions. I would never say that to my colleague from California, and I hope he would not say that about me on this issue. We are talking about providing lunches and flexibility to students and to the school nutritionists to meet their needs. We are not asking that this roll back the nutrition standards, we are not asking that it gut the underlying law. But some of the comments made, those would be the comments that you would think that we are trying to gut the entire law.

Mr. DAVIS made some very important comments when he spoke. All of us want kids to eat healthy meals, and we want to see child obesity decline. But simply providing school lunches that the kids won't eat and stopping there is not what this is about.

Student participation in the program continues to decline. A lot of the students are now bringing their lunches while the kids that are on these meal programs, they have no choice to eat this food while the other kids are bringing much more unhealthy food to the cafeteria, and watching them eat this other kind of food. It is just really disconcerting to see this. But we all have the same goal. Like I said, it is very disconcerting to hear that some of us would want our kids to be obese or to be unhealthy, and that is furthest from the truth.

I just want to say that because I think it is very important as we move forward with this debate.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I would like to announce that the Tom Colicchio group—he is one of those celebrity chefs and his group is called the Food Policy Action Network—they have told us that they are going to score the vote on this bill because of this provision that we are talking about right now and the amendment that I am going to offer to strike the provision.

The reason I want to strike the provision in the bill is because it just

gives it a blank waiver. It says, schools, you don't have to comply. That is too broad. We could have worked out some compromise language and more flexible language. But just to give them blank waiver, I think, is just an opt-out and doesn't necessarily get them back in, doesn't have any guidelines for how you can improve and get back on track. That's why I think it is a pretty extreme provision in the bill and ought to be knocked out.

Another reason is that we are paying for it. The taxpayers of this country put up the money and we are allocating it to this program, and I don't think the taxpayers want their money to go to food that isn't nutritious, that doesn't help kids to be healthier. I am not insinuating that the other side wants that, but I am saying that with that money, as in everything we do in the whole rest of this bill, it comes with conditionality.

Congress is a heavy parent. We don't just give money out. We also give instructions on what to spend it for and not to spend it for. When we are giving money to schools for school nutrition—for school lunch, school breakfast, school snack programs—we put some conditionality in it, and the conditionality is, let's buy healthy food with it, fruits and vegetables, and serve them to the kids.

I know there are places that say that is not what the kids eat at home or what they like, and so they are throwing it away. That is called "plate waste." But frankly, there is plate waste in our cafeteria here in Congress. There is plate waste everywhere. There is too much plate waste in America. When so much of the world can't get access to food we are throwing away about 50 percent of what we prepare every day, which is just appalling.

How do you change that? One is you get kids to like what they are eating. We have to encourage our kids to eat vegetables. As was said earlier, you have to encourage your kids to take a bath, you have to encourage your kids to turn off the television set, you have to encourage your kids to do the math homework that they don't want to do. We give instruction.

I think what is missing in this whole debate is the instructional opportunity. Frankly, America has got to face the fact that we have not really put much attention into raising a culture of people that have values in food health, in body health, and the fast food industry has been very good at getting a lot of sugar, a lot of salt, a lot of things out there that taste really great, and people want to eat that all the time, but your body is not made to handle all that.

I think it is an opportunity for us to use the school nutrition program as a learning method. I point out that when I grew up there weren't any fast foods. McDonald's was the first fast food industry to come to our area. It came to the biggest city in my county in 1964. I had already graduated from college. So

all my youth experience was eating at home, eating in the school, and there were never any fast foods. It was all fresh prepared every day. I didn't have the ability to get all that. If anything, it was in a can, and a whole new industry was developing to have fresh frozen.

So we have an opportunity to help our national security problem with food nutrition because the military officers tell us that 75 percent of the youth today cannot qualify to get in the military—75 percent. That is just appalling. That is why they have indicated that we need to have a school nutrition program.

We also see it in health care costs, the biggest cost in America. Why we did this whole health care reform was to bring down cost. Underlying all of that was, hey, we are going to raise healthier people in this country so we can avoid—the ounce of prevention—avoid those expensive costs when people get diabetes, obesity, and other things that are preventable. So what better way to teach the cost of prevention than through nutritional health and exercise.

Lastly, why it is important that we wipe out this provision in the bill is because we are paying. The money is all there. So the schools that would be able to get the flexibility that you talk about, the waiver, they get to keep all the money but they don't have any of the responsibility to deliver the product, to deliver the nutritional foods. I think that is where we are wrong. We can't just give them money and then no responsibility to be wisely spent on the purposes for which it was intended.

So that amendment is going to come up later, and I hope that I can get support from this amendment across the aisle.

Mr. COHEN. Will the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have remaining so I can see how much time I can yield?

The CHAIR. The gentleman from California has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. FARR. All right. I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee for a colloquy.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. MILLER was talking about white potatoes. How does this bill affect white potatoes? I saw this movie called "Fed Up," and white potatoes in general are the evil that cause people to get obese and gain weight. How are white potatoes in this bill?

Mr. FARR. Thank you for asking. The other provision is not in this school nutrition program, but in the WIC—the Women, Infants, and Children—program where we give vouchers to mothers of newborns or pregnant women in expectation that they are having children. To give them access to healthy fruits and vegetables we give them vouchers.

In that recommended formula, what the voucher should be spent on is, they are not allowed to spend them on white potatoes. Why? Because Americans eat

about 90 pounds of white potatoes or potatoes per year. Think of it. They have hash browns for breakfast, french fries for lunch, and baked potatoes for night. That is a lot of potatoes in one day. Certainly, a newborn and about-to-be-born are not necessarily needing potatoes.

Nonetheless, the potato industry is very powerful here and they were able to get a provision in demanding that the vouchers also include the ability to buy white potatoes. That is what stirred up this whole comment, because Congress has never dictated as to what you have to buy with it or to get into buying things that haven't been recommended as nutritional.

Mr. COHEN. That is what I was astonished about, Mr. FARR, when I watched this movie. It was Katie Couric, and I forget all the other people involved in producing it. But it was about how Congress had basically acquiesced to special interests to change the dietary guidelines, to the detriment of children, women, and infants. Carbohydrates and the production of insulin causing the digestive system and body to produce fat is the main cause of obesity. It is not exercise. It is not pushing yourself away from the table so much, but they discovered it is carbs and white potatoes. So we are now putting white potatoes back because of the potato industry? This is the Idaho provision?

Mr. FARR. It is often said as a food analogy that if you like sausages or laws you should never watch either of them being made. Perhaps what you are watching is that white potato mandate is getting stuck into this bill.

Mr. COHEN. Sausages and white potatoes. Thank you, sir.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, we worked hard to try to put together a pretty good bill, except for these two provisions that we were just talking about and the underfunding of the Federal Commodities Futures Trading Commission, and we will be having amendments on those issues.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. May I inquire as to how many speakers the minority has.

Mr. FARR. We don't have any further speakers.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have remaining?

The CHAIR. The gentleman from California has 1½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Alabama has 1 minute remaining and the right to close.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, this is an issue that, unfortunately, I think is misunderstood.

In school districts like Monticello, Illinois, that had to make the tough decision to pull out of the program, they don't get the Federal dollars anymore. They don't get the reimbursement. But they had to make the cost-benefit decision of whether or not to still feed

those who qualify for free and reduced lunch out of their own pocket so they wouldn't lose the \$100,000 a year. When the Los Angeles school district is losing upwards of \$20 million a year, it is a big deal because school districts are having to choose between teachers and complying with Federal rules and regulations.

I believe that the decision on how to feed children is best left to parents and our local school districts. Do you know what? The kids that are hurt the worst by this, that is why we are asking for this waiver. We are asking for the USDA to approve a waiver. That is it; nothing more, nothing less.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. I just wanted to clarify. I think the school district in Illinois you are talking about, they got out of the system because a hard boiled egg was not appropriate, or anything more than 12 ounces of skim milk was deemed inappropriate. That is what we are talking about, the regulations that are so out of whack.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. And the kids that are hurt the worst are the poorest kids who don't have the ability to go out to the convenience store when they are hungry afterwards, like many of the children of ours, and feed themselves. That is the only meal they may get that day, and we can't have Washington determining what that meal is.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, let me explain that not a drop of this money, a cent of it, can be spent on a teacher's salary. This is not, "We are going to spend it on food or a teacher's salary." This is only for food, and the Federal Government takes sole responsibility for that. If States want to add something they can. But it is a Federal program, one of the only solid Federal programs in K-12 education.

I yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO).

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of Congressman FARR's amendment that would remove the waiver that would exempt schools from providing even half a cup of fruits and vegetables to their students for lunch. More than 200 education and nutrition organizations oppose the weakening of nutrition standards. While it may be difficult to get kids to eat healthier, it is possible, as 90 percent of schools are already meeting the standards.

Rodney Taylor, the food service director at Riverside Unified School District, which is in my district, sent me a letter about the importance of nutrition standards, saying:

Children in our district and many others are enjoying meals that meet updated school lunch requirements from the USDA, proving that it is possible to have healthy children and healthy budgets. Letting schools opt out

of these standards will not help them move forward and will be detrimental to the children they serve.

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I thank Congressman FARR for introducing this amendment, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it, so we can move forward in the fight against childhood obesity.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of Section 738, a section allowing for the inclusion of white potatoes in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), in the fiscal year 2015 Agriculture Appropriations Act. I commend Chairman ADERHOLT as well as Chairman ROGERS for their work crafting this legislation in a bipartisan manner.

Washington State is blessed with an incredibly diverse agriculture industry, providing our nation and the rest of the world with top-quality products including asparagus, apples, cherries, peas, lentils, wheat—and of course—potatoes. In fact, Washington State is second in the nation when it comes to potato production, contributing 23 percent of the nation's potato crop. Additionally, potatoes are the fourth largest agricultural commodity in Washington, providing jobs for hundreds of people in Eastern Washington and all across the state. To that end, I was pleased to join my colleagues this past January in passing the bipartisan Omnibus spending bill which directed the U.S. Department of Agriculture to include in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for WIC a range of fruits and vegetables including nutritious white potatoes.

Science has proven that fresh white potatoes are more nutrient dense than many of the vegetables already included in the WIC program and possess a significant amount of vitamin C and potassium. Despite the latest research and the clear intention of Congress, the Administration has repeatedly fought to exclude white potatoes from the WIC program. Relying on decades-old consumption data cited in a 2005 Institute of Medicine report, the Department of Agriculture has arbitrarily limited this healthy option from the diets of millions of Americans. In fact, the most current science available, the 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, recommends greater consumption of starchy vegetables.

Mr. Chair, I believe the exclusion of potatoes in the WIC program is both scientifically unfounded and unfair to those Americans seeking a greater variety of healthy food options. I appreciate the work done in this bill to correct this arbitrary restriction and I urge my colleagues to support Section 738 of this bill.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, each amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent and shall not be subject to amendment. No pro forma amendment shall be in order except that the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appro-

priations, or their respective designees, may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The chair of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose. Amendments so printed shall be considered read.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows.

H.R. 4800

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, \$41,284,000, of which not to exceed \$5,051,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed \$498,000 shall be available for the Office of Tribal Relations; not to exceed \$1,507,000 shall be available for the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination; not to exceed \$1,209,000 shall be available for the Office of Advocacy and Outreach; not to exceed \$26,115,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which \$22,811,000 shall be available for Departmental Administration to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department; not to exceed \$3,869,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch; and not to exceed \$5,535,000 shall be available for the Office of Communications: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$11,000 of the amount made available under this paragraph for the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading for Departmental Administration shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551–558: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading for the Office of

the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. LEE OF CALIFORNIA

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska). The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 2, line 14, after the first dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 2, line 21, after the dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 2, line 22, after the dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 18, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$8,150,000)”.

Page 44, line 2, after the dollar amount insert “(increased by \$8,150,000)”.

Page 48, line 4, after the dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Ms. LEE of California (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentlewoman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chairman, first, let me thank our chair and our ranking member for working with me on this amendment. I appreciate the bipartisan cooperation. Also, I want to thank our staff for helping us with this.

This amendment would provide a badly needed increase to the school breakfast grant program of approximately \$8.1 million. The offset for this amendment is the Secretary's administrative account and the administrative and expenses account.

These competitive grants allow States, schools, and local educational agencies to purchase important equipment for their school breakfast program. The school breakfast program is a critical tool in the fight to keep our students fed with a nutritious meal at the start of the day.

Oftentimes, this is the meal that children rely on to help them get through the day, especially toward the end of the day, when they are about ready to go home and they have not been fully fed at the beginning of the day.

The bottom line is breakfast is very, very important to the growth, health, welfare, and development of our children.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. LEE of California. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, the bill provides \$25 million for USDA to

make the school meal equipment grants. I understand the intent of this amendment would be to increase the funding to match the President's request for a total of \$35 million. Since there is an acceptable offset, we would be willing to accept this amount.

Ms. LEE of California. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is especially critical for low-income children, many of whom who have not had a nutritious meal since the previous day of school, so I really appreciate your support.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. THOMPSON OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 2, line 14, after the first dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000)".

Page 2, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000)".

Page 2, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000)".

Page 6, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Mr. THOMPSON of California (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment authored by myself and Mr. HUFFMAN from California.

Our amendment would help support the USDA Office of the Inspector General by providing them with additional resources to protect our Nation's food supply.

In February of this year, Rancho Feeding, a slaughterhouse bordering my district, recalled 8.7 million pounds of beef that it produced in the year 2013. That is no small recall. Unfortunately, the USDA was slow to share information about the nature of the recall and what would happen to the beef already processed by the Rancho facility.

From the beginning of this recall, public safety has been our number one concern. We can't let food get out that puts the health and safety of the American people at risk. That is why it is important that the Office of the Inspector General have the support it needs from Congress to do its job and ensure our food is safe. This amendment provides them with that additional support.

Jobs, businesses, and livelihoods are on the line. The longer this investigation drags on, the more uncertainty businesses face. Following the results of the investigation, USDA must put in place practices and procedures that prevent this type of recall from occurring in the future.

I want to thank my colleague and friend, Mr. HUFFMAN, for working closely with me on this issue. He and I both represent ranchers affected by this recall. He has shared my frustration during the past few months.

If you support protecting our food supply and ensuring the integrity of USDA programs, then I urge you to support this amendment.

I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN).

Mr. HUFFMAN. Thank you, Mr. THOMPSON.

The Federal Government has a responsibility to ensure our food safety and to make sure that the meat we barbecue this summer doesn't come with harmful diseases.

It is the responsibility of the inspectors and the oversight agencies to stop unsafe practices from occurring in the first place and to proactively address problems before they require massive recalls.

Unfortunately, it doesn't always happen that way. The facility in my district that is now experiencing a sweeping recall of 8.7 million pounds of meat does not represent a simple breakdown in the inspection process.

The Office of the Inspector General has launched a criminal investigation into improper activities that include deceptive practices by the owners of the slaughterhouse. We know, from a CNN investigation, that misconduct may even include some of the very USDA inspectors that were charged with protecting the public.

This incident clearly demands a serious investigation. The public has a right to know what happened, how the process broke down, and who will be held responsible for it. Unfortunately, to date, we have received virtually no information about this from USDA.

This sweeping recall, coupled with a complete lack of information, not only shakes public confidence, it affects, in a very serious way, many of the ranchers in my district whose livelihoods have been harmed. They deserve answers from the USDA, too.

I have many constituents who are facing serious financial losses, and they can't get any information about what happened. Many ranchers in the North Bay had tens of thousands of pounds of their premium beef recalled, and the USDA won't tell them what happened, whether their beef was actually contaminated, or even when this case will be closed.

We have gotten far more information, frankly, from CNN than we have gotten from USDA. This is completely unacceptable.

Our amendment transfers \$1 million from the USDA's administrative ac-

count to the inspector general's office, so that we can have the resources needed to swiftly complete this investigation, close the case, and make sure we get answers, so that we can prevent this from happening again.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HUFFMAN. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. I was simply asking the gentleman to yield to say we would accept your language.

Mr. HUFFMAN. Reclaiming my time, thank you very much.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. I thank the chairman and ranking member for cooperating with us and working with us on this very important matter, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GALLEGO

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 2, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,869,000)".

Page 3, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,869,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Texas and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Chairman, I offer this amendment because I believe that government must respect the people that it serves and always remember that government is a servant of the people.

Several years ago, the Department of Agriculture closed an inspection station that was incredibly important to the city of Presidio in Presidio County, Texas.

When I took office some 18 months ago and made inquiries, USDA never returned phone calls, never made any effort to work with us to determine why it is that that inspection station was closed.

They refused to work with the city or the county or the local business community, and so businesses across the area were harmed in a way that they will never get their money back as a result of all of the lost business. Presidio was the leading cattle importation port in the country at the time.

This amendment would zero fund their Office of Congressional Relations in an attempt to get the attention of the Department of Agriculture and indicate to them that their behavior is totally, thoroughly, and completely unacceptable.

People in Presidio, as well as people elsewhere across the Nation, deserve respect. Those men and women who run businesses and depend on the cattle

industry in that part of the State deserve to have their questions answered.

For the Department to drag its feet for more than 2 years before giving a simple answer as to why that action was taken by the Department is totally, thoroughly and completely inexcusable.

As I said, Mr. Chairman, this amendment would zero fund their Office of Congressional Relations in an attempt to get their attention.

Having offered the amendment, Mr. Chairman, and made my point, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY HINOJOSA

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 2, line 14, after the first dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$2,500,000)".

Page 2, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$2,500,000)".

Page 2, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$2,500,000)".

Page 13, line 8, after the first dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$2,500,000)".

Page 13, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$2,500,000)".

Mr. HINOJOSA (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Texas and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank Congressman MIKE THOMPSON from California for joining me on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment to H.R. 4800 is simple. It would increase funding for the specialty crop pests program at the Department of Agriculture by \$2.5 million in order to provide more funding to strongly combat the invasive pests that threaten our agriculture industry.

□ 1515

From the Mediterranean fruit fly, which attacks fruits and nuts throughout California, to the imported fire ant that destroys corn and soybean and okra in Louisiana, the need for this program is higher than it has ever been.

Nowhere is this more important than in my own congressional district in south Texas, which is being ravaged by citrus greening. Citrus greening is one of the most destructive plant diseases in the world. Once a citrus tree is infected, it produces bitter, unusable fruit and kills the tree, itself, within a

few years. There is no cure, and it has proven to be difficult to eradicate. As a result, over half of the trees in every citrus orchard in Florida have contracted this disease. Right now, both Cameron and Hidalgo Counties, in my district, are under a full emergency quarantine. This is a growing epidemic that threatens to eradicate an entire agricultural industry if we do not do everything we can to stop it.

While I am pleased that the recently passed farm bill included \$125 million in funding over a 5-year period to study ways to wipe it out, that funding is focused on long-term solutions through competitive grants. The funding for the invasive pest control, which the amendment would increase, is specifically meant to help deal with the immediate impacts on the ground today, programs such as coordinated area-wide suppression programs, pest surveys, protecting disease-free nursery stock, and public outreach and education programs.

While I am happy that the committee provided a modest increase to this funding in the underlying bill, I believe this additional funding is greatly needed to increase our on-the-ground presence to stop the outbreak in Texas from its alarming spread, which threatens the entire State. For these reasons, I would urge the support of my amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, the House bill does provide significant funding for this project and report language regarding the citrus growing disease. Mr. ROONEY, Mr. VALADAO, along with Mr. MCCARTHY and Mr. FARR, have raised this issue. We understand how devastating this disease has been, especially to the Florida growers and, certainly, to California as well.

The bill, itself, provides \$44.5 million for the programs that protect the citrus industry, so I believe we have addressed the urgency of the need in this bill. I do accept the gentleman's amendment, understanding this is a very important issue.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HINOJOSA. I thank the gentleman for accepting my amendment.

Mr. Chairman, in closing, in my area just a year ago, we went to see and meet with all of the producers, and they were showing us the comparison of where we are in Texas as compared to the damage that was done in Florida and in California. Within less than 6 months, we were put under quarantine in my area, and we are one of the three largest citrus growing regions in the whole country—in California, in Florida, and in deep south Texas—where we grow the Ruby Reds and the Navel oranges and all of that.

We are really needing it not over a 5-year period—we need to attack it now.

We have the research going on with the Texas A&M University Research Center in Weslaco, and this money will help us to be able to stop the damage that has already been done.

I thank you for accepting my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Economist, \$16,777,000, of which \$4,000,000 shall be for grants or cooperative agreements for policy research under 7 U.S.C. 3155.

NATIONAL APPEALS DIVISION

For necessary expenses of the National Appeals Division, \$13,317,000.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, \$9,392,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, \$45,025,000, of which not less than \$22,000,000 is for cybersecurity requirements of the Department.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, \$6,028,000.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 5, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$220,000)".

Page 6, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$220,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Arizona and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to offer the simplest of amendments.

This amendment transfers \$220,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's wasteful and ineffective Office of the chief financial officer to the Department's Office of Inspector General, bringing their appropriations in line with the President's request. It seems only fitting that the inspector general's office receive additional resources, particularly at the expense of the office it will most likely first investigate.

In April of this year, the inspector general reported that the Department's chief financial officer failed to comply with the Improper Payments Information Act for the third year in a row. The CFO would have saved more than \$415 million by simply following Federal law and ensuring certain programs met their spending reduction goals. Instead, the CFO continued to turn a

blind eye, and the inspector general reported that, last year alone, the USDA made \$6.2 billion in improper payments. Let me repeat that: \$6.2 billion in improper payments were made by the USDA last year alone. I would like to provide a few examples of this wasteful spending.

In fiscal year 2013, the USDA paid more than \$50 million to special interest groups to promote Christmas. The USDA's chief financial officer authorized a loan to a well-established brewing company for over \$450,000. The USDA spent \$20 million on IT software that did not work. On the chief financial officer's watch, \$403,627 was wasted last year on a study to see if we could turn cow manure into electricity. Over 100 people received loan guarantees of \$500,000 or more to buy a home in Hawaii. This "Hawaiian beachfront property" loan program lost nearly \$500 million last year according to the Office of Inspector General.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOSAR. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. ADERHOLT. We will accept your amendment.

Mr. GOSAR. We will accept the gentleman's proposal.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, \$898,000.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROWN OF
GEORGIA

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 5, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 7, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 12, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 18, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 20, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 25, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 26, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 43, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000)".

Page 82, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$40,000)".

Mr. BROWN of Georgia (during the reading). Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Georgia and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, this amendment simply gathers the arbitrary budget increases of \$5,000 added to seven under secretaries' offices and one assistant secretary's office, totaling \$40,000, and it applies that amount to the spending reduction account.

What would a \$5,000 increase to the budget of the office of an under secretary even pay for? Would it pay for one taxpayer-funded trip? for pencils? for paper clips? maybe pay raises to the Federal bureaucrats to implement the nearly \$1 trillion new farm bill?

According to the Web site wallstcheatsheet.com, a person can start a business for \$5,000 or less in overhead; but, Mr. Chairman, the Federal Government is not a business, and it does not run like one, unfortunately, as \$5,000 is a drop in the bucket compared to the accounts we are considering today.

This increase is a symbol of this government's out-of-control spending. Both political parties are guilty. If Congress can't cut \$40,000, then we are facing the root of our spending problem—thousands of dollars can quickly add up to millions, which would soon become billions, and all the while, Congress keeps approving more and more even when there is no good reason for the increase.

The American people have demanded that we cut the outrageous spending that is going on here in Washington by Republicans and Democrats alike. We must look to every corner of the budget to do so. We must become better stewards of taxpayers' dollars, and this amendment is one small step in that right direction.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman's concern for the Federal deficit and the debt problem that we are facing in this Nation. It is something that is very serious, and I appreciate his hard work on this issue. I know that he is very concerned, as we all are, about it.

I am going to have to reluctantly oppose the amendment. We have carefully reviewed the President's budget request, and we believe that we have appropriately and adequately funded the various mission areas within the Department of Agriculture, and because of that, as I say, I will oppose the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROWN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, \$24,070,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 121, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for alterations and other actions needed for the Department and its agencies to consolidate unneeded space into configurations suitable for release to the Administrator of General Services, and for the operation, maintenance, improvement, and repair of Agriculture buildings and facilities, and for related costs, \$54,825,000, to remain available until expended, for building operations and maintenance expenses: *Provided*, That the Secretary may use unobligated prior year balances of an agency or office that are no longer available for new obligation to cover shortfalls incurred in prior year rental payments for such agency or office.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), \$3,600,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Materials Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, \$97,020,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, and including not to exceed \$125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95-452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97-98.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, \$44,383,000.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 7, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,181,000)”.

Page 82, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,181,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Arizona and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer another amendment to the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2015.

This amendment pertains to the Department of Agriculture's Office of General Counsel.

By way of background, this office was appropriated \$41,202,000 in fiscal year 2014. The President's budget for FY15 requested a steep increase of \$6,365,000. The President attempts to justify this 15.4 percent increase by saying that these moneys will go towards: “31 full-time equivalents to handle an increased workload, to support current staff, rent, and enhance OGC's information technology reporting capabilities and litigation management tools.” In other words, most of that money will be used to hire both government attorneys and to give raises to government attorneys already on staff.

You see, because I am from the Western States, I take issue with that.

I represent a rural district in western Arizona, and I serve on the House Natural Resources Committee, which oversees much of the executive branch's activities with regard to resources and lands. I am quite familiar with the effects government attorneys often have on States, their resources, and their lands, and my colleagues and I are generally disgusted with the overreaching policies the Obama administration has imposed on Western States. Therefore, I oppose any plans by the Department to hire more government attorneys, many of whom will be used to implement and defend the administration's overreaching landgrabs, watergrabs, and climate change policies.

I appreciate that this committee decided not to fulfill the President's request in full, but it did propose appropriating roughly half of his request. I simply cannot, in good conscience, allow more attorneys to be hired at the USDA—attorneys who will infringe upon many States' 10th Amendment rights.

My amendment proposes to cut most of the increase the Appropriations Committee has offered in this bill, but it leaves a portion of the increase for the sole purpose of improving the informational technology of the Office of the General Counsel.

□ 1530

I understand the Federal Government generally has major issues with information technology. Our departments and agencies are often using archaic IT systems and many should be updated for efficiency and security purposes.

IT issues are often highlighted at my other committee assignment on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. This a bipartisan issue and has been addressed regularly by Chairman ISSA, Ranking Member CUMMINGS, and the rest of my colleagues.

To close, I ask my colleagues to support this amendment. It would help to reserve States' rights, curb executive branch overreach, cut spending, and improve information technology systems all at once.

As always, I appreciate the work of the committee, particularly the work of the chair and the ranking member.

I urge passage of my commonsense amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chair, again, I appreciate the gentleman's concern for the Federal debt, the deficit problem that we are facing in this Nation. Again, it is a very serious issue, and we need to address it in many ways.

However, I would have to oppose this amendment, reluctantly. We have carefully reviewed the President's budget, the request that he has made, and we have tried to appropriately and adequately fund the mission areas within the Department of Agriculture.

For that reason, again, we would have to oppose the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I would like to reiterate the government's overreach, particularly in Western States. With due respect, this budget does not look at the appropriate utilization of funds for attorneys. And when you look at the overreach of this administration with climate change, with water, and with resources, it is about time that we made conscious use of attorneys' fees.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. JOLLY). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF ETHICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Ethics, \$3,440,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, \$898,000.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service, \$85,784,000.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. COHEN

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 7, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Tennessee and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise to urge my colleagues to support the Kelly-Cohen-Titus amendment to increase funding to the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer program.

For many young people, the end of school is an exciting day, and they get out for the summer. But for the millions of children and families who rely on school lunch for meals, the summer months are a time of stress, anxiety, and hunger when those meals disappear.

The Summer Food Service Program, created by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, provides free, nutritious meals and snacks to help children get the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow throughout the summer months when they are out of school.

Last Monday, I joined the Summer Food Kickoff at Emerald Square in Memphis in support of this program. I had the opportunity to speak with kids, watch them in delight as they ate their lunch and listened to them read books provided by Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

This amendment would increase the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children program by \$3 million. The project allows USDA to study alternative approaches to providing food assistance to low-income children in urban and rural districts through the summer months.

Additional funding to this program for children would not only reduce childhood hunger when school is out and encourage healthier eating but allow us to learn more about food insecurity among children and the best approaches to reducing it long-term.

The wealthiest Nation of the world should not send its children to bed hungry, so making sure they have the food they need must be a top priority.

This program helps fill the gap when students are not in school, providing meals for many children that would otherwise go hungry in Memphis, Chicago, Las Vegas, and throughout the Nation.

By increasing funding to this program, we can be sure we are feeding our kids a healthy meal each day. I urge passage of the amendment to restore funding to the Summer Food Service Program.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY).

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the gentleman from

Tennessee and the gentlewoman from Nevada to offer a commonsense amendment to the Agriculture Appropriations Act that would ensure that this summer, when students walk away from their classroom, they don't walk into homes and communities that allow them to go hungry.

Most of us can remember the excitement of the last day of school. But too many of us forget the fact that, for millions of children in rural, suburban, and urban communities, the summer months, when you no longer have lunchtime in the cafeteria, are often the hungriest time of the year.

Our amendment is a fiscally responsible effort to be there for our kids while providing funds for the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children program, which will help the USDA offer responsible solutions that respond to the food security needs of children across our Nation.

When children wake up in Illinois and feel the same exact hunger as kids in Memphis, Las Vegas, and the Speaker's district, we are doing something wrong. I urge my colleagues to work in a bipartisan manner and put kids first and pass this amendment.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to join with my colleagues, Representatives KELLY and COHEN, to introduce this amendment to increase the summer food program for children by \$3 million.

Across the country, one of every five children is at risk of going hungry. In Nevada, more than 233,000 children qualify for free or reduced lunch. That means that 54 percent of Nevada's students come from low-income households that struggle with hunger.

While these children can eat free and reduced-price lunch during the school year, the vast majority are left without adequate nutrition during the summer.

The Summer EBT program is a pilot program that helps fill this gap by providing eligible families with additional SNAP benefits during the summer months. It works.

In 2012, it served almost 67,000 children who might have otherwise gone hungry. The participation in this program is dramatically higher than in other programs, serving up to 75 percent of eligible children.

That is why I believe that we should meet the President's budget request and increase funding to feed as many hungry children as possible. A vacation from school shouldn't mean a hungry child.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF GEORGIA

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 7, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$7,726,000)".

Page 82, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$7,726,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Georgia and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment that would reduce the funding for the USDA's Economic Research Service by \$7,726,000 and increase the spending reduction account by that same amount.

This amendment would maintain, I repeat, maintain current funding levels, while helping to end the duplicative research the USDA is currently conducting.

The Economic Research Service makes social science inquiries into the nutritional choices of citizens, as well as farmers' decisions to participate in risk management programs. According to the USDA, this program is "the primary source of statistical indicators of the farm sector," and it is the only USDA research agency based entirely in D.C., according to the Congressional Research Service.

However, there is a second agency within the USDA, the National Agricultural Statistics Agency, which serves essentially the same purpose. This agency is funded at \$169,371,000 in this bill.

But wait, Mr. Chairman. The underlying bill also provides \$1.2 billion in mandatory spending for research, education, and economics studies, the same function as the Economic Research Service and the National Agricultural Statistics Agency.

Mr. Chairman, we are in an economic and fiscal emergency. The Federal Government spends too much money. It is irresponsible to keep spending money beyond our means. Not only do we need to reduce our deficit, but we need to begin to make an impact on eliminating the huge debt that has been accumulating over the last several years.

I applaud the Appropriations Committee for bringing to the floor five appropriations bills in roughly the same number of weeks. In fact, we haven't seen this particular bill here in the House since 2011.

I offered a similar amendment to this one during the consideration of that bill, to cut \$7 million from the Economic Research Service.

So I ask my colleagues, let's try again. Let's cut the duplicative spending that is in this bill for that agency. Let's make meaningful cuts to show the American people that we are serious about controlling spending and serious about the future of our country. I urge support of my amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I respect the gentleman's desire to cut, squeeze, and trim and be a deficit hawk, but I think you are really cutting the wrong area.

There are a lot of statistical departments in the Department of Agriculture because it is involved with a lot of different issues, sort of the whole rural economics of America, all the trade issues.

You have got two departments. You have got one that does the big data and one that does the small data.

You are a doctor of medicine, and it would be like comparing an MRI to a thermometer. They both are diagnostic tools but they don't do the same things. And neither does ERS or NAS.

You stated they seem like they duplicate. No, they are both involved in economic research, and I don't know how to explain it all, but it is the underlying data that drives everything, drives all the markets, drives decision-making. The growers are private sector capitalists, if you will, having to borrow from a banking system. They all have to have good data in order to make decisions.

□ 1545

I think, if you squeeze and trim these economic data collectors, you are really hurting the underlying economy of agriculture in the United States, so I would oppose your amendment.

We need crop data. We need market data. We need nutritional data. We need rural economy data, and these are the agencies, particularly the ERS that you are cutting, that collects that, so I oppose the amendment.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. FARR. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. I thank my friend for yielding.

In this bill, we are appropriating \$1.2 billion of mandatory spending to gather data for research education and economic studies.

Is there any reason why, within that \$1.2 billion of getting data, that they cannot do the same function as we are with the Economic Research Service?

Mr. FARR. Well, I am not sure that I understand the gentleman's question, but there are different kinds of data, and there are different places that you collect that data, as there is in everything we do in government and the private sector.

I think what you are doing, I mean, you are taking a program—if you just kind of open the book and look at government and find all these areas where you think there is duplication, I think that the next step is to go and find out exactly where there is waste.

Everybody is against—and we do trim waste because we are always looking for money, but this is not the place. There is no trim there. It doesn't get you anything. In fact, it hurts the

users of that data, not being able to have it.

I yield back the balance of my time. The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, \$169,371,000, of which up to \$47,842,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture: *Provided*, That amounts made available for the Census of Agriculture may be used to conduct Current Industrial Report surveys subject to 7 U.S.C. 2204g(d) and (f).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Research Service and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, \$1,120,253,000: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed \$375,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to \$1,200,000, and except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed \$750,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or \$375,000, whichever is greater: *Provided further*, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center: *Provided further*, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by, and acceptable to, the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the easements shall be that upon completion the facility shall be accepted by the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds herein, if the Secretary finds that acceptance of the facility is in the interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Ag-

ricultural Research Service, as authorized by law.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture, where not otherwise provided, \$155,000,000 to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, \$774,465,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Education Activities" in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That funds for research grants for 1994 institutions, education grants for 1890 institutions, the agriculture and food research initiative, veterinary medicine loan repayment, multicultural scholars, graduate fellowship and institution challenge grants, and grants management systems shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each institution eligible to receive funds under the Evans-Allen program receives no less than \$1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions be made available to individual eligible institutions or consortia of eligible institutions with funds awarded equally to each of the States of Alaska and Hawaii: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for 1890 institutions shall be made available to institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 and 3222: *Provided further*, That not more than 5 percent of the amounts made available by this or any other Act to carry out the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative under 7 U.S.C. 450i(b) may be retained by the Secretary of Agriculture to pay administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out that authority.

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund authorized by Public Law 103-382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), \$11,880,000, to remain available until expended.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

For payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, the Northern Marianas, and American Samoa, \$467,339,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Activities" in the report accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That funds for facility improvements at 1890 institutions shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 for cooperative extension receive no less than \$1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for cooperative extension under sections 3(b) and (c) of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c)) and section 208(c) of Public Law 93-471 shall be available for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents.

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

For the integrated research, education, and extension grants programs, including necessary administrative expenses, \$32,000,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Integrated Activities" in the report

accompanying this Act: *Provided*, That funds for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative shall remain available until September 30, 2016.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, \$898,000.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, including up to \$30,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4085), \$867,505,000, of which \$470,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds (contingency fund) to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions; of which \$11,520,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used for the cotton pests program for cost share purposes or for debt retirement for active eradication zones; of which \$35,339,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Animal Health Technical Services; of which \$697,000 shall be for activities under the authority of the Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1831); of which \$52,340,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used to support avian health; of which \$4,251,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for information technology infrastructure; of which \$156,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for specialty crop pests; of which, \$8,826,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for field crop and rangeland ecosystem pests; of which \$47,417,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for tree and wood pests; of which \$4,222,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the National Veterinary Stockpile; of which up to \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the scrapie program for indemnities; of which \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the wildlife damage management program for aviation safety: *Provided*, That of amounts available under this heading for wildlife services methods development, \$1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of amounts available under this heading for the screwworm program, \$4,990,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed four, of which two shall be for replacement only: *Provided further*, That in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year

shall be merged with such transferred amounts: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SCHIFF

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 13, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Chairman, for decades, there has been a growing debate among marine biologists and other professionals over maintaining marine mammals in captivity, but it was last year's release of the documentary “Blackfish” that spurred a broader public discussion over whether the conditions in which marine mammals, particularly orcas, are held for public display are humane and whether these animals should even be held in captivity.

I have serious concerns about the psychological and physical harm to orcas and other large marine mammals in captivity. Isolating these animals—which can travel hundreds of miles in a day in the wild and which live in large, complex social groupings—in a small enclosure is troubling.

There is substantial evidence that orcas in captivity live much shorter lives than those in the wild and display high levels of stress and aberrant and sometimes dangerous behavior.

Two weeks ago, Representative HUFFMAN and I, along with 38 of our colleagues, sent a letter to the Department of Agriculture, urging them to move forward with a rulemaking regarding conditions of captivity for marine mammals under the Animal Welfare Act.

Twenty years ago, the Department recognized the need to revise regulations. Ten years ago, the Department proposed such a rulemaking and received many public comments. Since then, progress has stalled, despite the public outcry about this issue.

Our amendment would serve to kick-start that effort by providing \$1 million for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to study the effect of captivity on large marine mammals, so that USDA can follow through with proposing a rule that is long overdue.

Among the issues that would benefit from an unbiased examination by APHIS are the effects of captivity on the longevity of marine mammals, whether they suffer from physical and mental maladies at a higher rate than animals in the wild and whether they

display unnatural and unhealthy behaviors indicating high levels of stress.

The finding of this study will inform the USDA's consideration of reopening a rulemaking process, which could result in scientifically-based regulations that ensure humane conditions for these awe-inspiring animals.

The amendment does not change existing rules and regulations. Instead, we are calling on the USDA to gather all scientific evidence and propose a rule that has been 20 years in the making. I urge adoption of the amendment.

At this point, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN), who is a leader on this issue.

Mr. HUFFMAN. I thank my colleague from southern California for his leadership on this issue.

Mr. Chairman, like many people, I did a lot of reflecting after I saw the documentary “Blackfish.” Specifically, I looked into whether our Federal authorities were using the most updated science-based information in their regulation of marine mammal captivity.

I was disappointed to find that our government has done virtually nothing to update these regulations in the last two decades.

APHIS, the agency charged with this responsibility, has not updated the Animal Welfare Act regulations since 1995, and these rules should have been updated 10 years ago, when APHIS opened up a rulemaking process. Unfortunately, they dropped the ball, so it is time to try again.

As Congressman SCHIFF mentioned, we recently led a sign-on letter with three dozen of our colleagues to Agriculture Secretary Vilsack, demanding action on that issue.

In that letter, we urged him to complete the updating of these regulations for captive marine mammals, including publishing the proposed rule and allowing a public comment period, so that we can incorporate the latest science.

We have had no response to that letter, so today, we are offering an amendment to provide APHIS with the funding needed to start that process again and ensure that our regulations for captive orcas and other marine mammals are based on modern science.

This amendment reminds APHIS that inaction is unacceptable. The agency must use the funds provided to ensure that we have on the books the best possible standards for captive marine mammals based on solid modern science and informed by all of the information that we have gleaned in the past two decades.

I ask my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. SCHIFF. I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

In fiscal year 2015, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of pro-

viding technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be reimbursed to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, \$3,175,000, to remain available until expended.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service, \$81,192,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 16, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$15,500,000)”.

Page 48, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROYCE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I want to compliment the chairman and the ranking member for the work that they have done to bring this bill to the floor, but this bill can be improved.

There is growing bipartisan support for improving our international food assistance to ensure that more people are helped for less money. Unfortunately, this bill fails to advance international food aid reform, and it actually reverses progress achieved in the 2014 farm bill, legislation enacted by this body just a few months ago.

It fails to provide flexibility, so that up to 25 percent of the Food for Peace title II budget would be exempt from U.S. purchase requirements. If enacted, this proposal would have generated over \$100 million in efficiency savings and enabled the United States to reach an additional 2 million people in dire need of food aid. An effective international food aid program helps those in need, and it strengthens our international security.

Finally, the bill fails to fund a congressionally authorized, broadly supported Local and Regional Procurement program. Following upon a successful pilot, the 2014 farm bill authorized \$80 million per year for the Local and Regional Procurement program.

That means we can buy food closer to the area in crisis, reducing transit time by more than 10 weeks, reducing the cost per food aid recipient by 20 to 30 percent. This was considered an important reform that won, again, broad bipartisan support.

This amendment contains a modest shift in funding that will have a major impact, \$10 million, while reducing funds for the administration of marketing and promotion programs that benefit major corporations. We can save lives. It is an easy choice.

Mr. Chairman, our food aid takes too long to arrive and costs too much to get there. A former top aid official told our committee that:

In fast onset famines, such as Somalia in 1991–1992, and wars involving mass population displacement, such as in Darfur in 2003 and 2004, I watched people die waiting for food arrive.

Obviously, he strongly backs this reform.

Lastly, I recently traveled to the Philippines and witnessed firsthand the impact that LRP can have. Devastated by a powerful typhoon and left with virtually nothing, the people of Tacloban did not have the luxury of time to wait for U.S. food aid to arrive from warehouses in Sri Lanka.

In fact, it took more than 3 weeks for those shipments to arrive, but with local and regional procurement, we were able to start helping people right away, and we saved lives.

I would say, in Syria, where the delivery of U.S. food is nearly impossible, the combination of vouchers with local and regional purchase is the only viable option.

It is time to make a change. This requires \$10 million. Vote “yes,” please, on the Royce amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, my colleague from California (Mr. ROYCE) has been working at this issue for a very long time, and he has considerable knowledge and certainly a compassion and a deep understanding of these issues. There is far more to this than was explained in your presentation.

There is an ongoing debate about how the United States ought to be assisting in the disasters and famines around the world. That debate came to a head last year in which it was decided that we ought to continue with the longstanding appeal for a Food for Peace program, with some modifications.

My concern here with this particular amendment is that it may open the

door for a continuation of that debate and ultimately lead to the demise of the P.L. 480 program, which has extraordinary political support as a result of the combination of American farmers, the merchant marine industry, as well as many NGOs around the Nation.

I recognize that, in many places, it is necessary to have local purchases of food, and the chairman actually cited a couple of those examples. It turned out that the local purchase of food was accomplished through an existing program that USAID presently has, and that program is the international disaster assistance program, where money is available for the local purchase of food.

The bottom line is that this \$10 million really doesn't add anything that isn't already available in the current appropriation—in the current bill, so I would say let's not go down this road right now. Let's not open up this door to what may very well be a very extensive debate that we have already had, so I would softly oppose the amendment.

I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee on the other side of the aisle.

Mr. FINCHER. I thank the gentleman from California for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment. This amendment would essentially duplicate an existing program already in place at the U.S. Agency for International Development under the international development assistance account.

□ 1600

USAID already allows for local and regional purchases so there is no need for the same program at the USDA.

More importantly, this amendment would use taxpayer dollars to purchase commodities from foreign countries rather than right here at home. Unlike other foreign aid programs, the Food for Peace program is American-made through and through. It was designed to take American commodities on American ships overseas to feed those in need.

The Food for Peace program supports American agriculture, exports, and jobs while increasing goodwill overseas and helping those in need. The USDA estimates that for every \$1 billion in U.S. agricultural exports, 8,400 American jobs are created. We need to be focused on creating jobs here at home and growing our economy so the United States is able to be abundantly generous to countries that can't grow enough food to feed their growing populations.

This amendment gives away American tax dollars to our foreign competitors and puts American jobs at risk. I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment and support American farmers, workers, and taxpayers.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield my remaining 1 minute to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of Mr. ROYCE's amendment. I want to work with him on an offset that I think might be a little more desirable.

But the notion here somehow that we are going to undercut the reforms that were achieved in the farm bill that require food, on average, to take 74 days longer, when you use U.S.-sourced commodities, when it is going to be, on average, 25 percent more expensive, and to talk about our “foreign competitors,” when we are talking about being able to purchase locally from people who are on the edge of impoverishment, rather than flooding American commodities that are more expensive late in the game and undercutting local production, I think is a sad step forward.

I appreciate the gentleman's leadership and strongly urge support of this as we work for a better offset.

Mr. ROYCE. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BLUMENAUER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROYCE. In closing, I would just say that I am open to working with the chairman and ranking member to find an appropriate offset in conference. However, it is essential to adopt this amendment now so that this matter can be set, we can put a marker down, and get this in place. I thank the gentleman for the support for the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO) having assumed the chair, Mr. JOLLY, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4800) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1651

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). Pursuant to House Resolution 616 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4800.

Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) kindly take the chair.

□ 1652

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4800) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes, with Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 7, printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), had been postponed, and the bill had been read through page 16, line 19.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701).

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$60,709,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That if crop size is understated or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY (SECTION 32)

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of August 8, 1956; (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than \$20,056,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961.

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), \$1,235,000.

GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Adminis-

tration, \$43,722,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARDNER

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk, and I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN) be listed as a cosponsor of my amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. An amendment may not be cosponsored.

The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 18, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,461,000)".

Page 42, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$3,461,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Colorado and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the amendment which provides an additional \$3.4 million for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program was reduced from FY14-enacted levels, and my amendment restores some of the funding to improve access to health care and education for rural areas.

Rural areas are typically areas where they have local primary care physicians who perform routine checkups and primary care. But what if a patient requires a specialist or has a more complicated medical condition?

My hometown of Yuma, Colorado, is more than 2 hours from a number of specialized medical services, complex trauma centers, or oncology centers. The doctors in our area and in other rural areas do the best job they can with the resources that they have, but most lack the specialization to treat more complicated cases.

We can improve patient outcomes, quality of life, lower costs, and improve care by utilizing technology that is already available. This amendment provides additional resources for our rural communities to do just that. Increases in funding for telemedicine will give patients access to health care anywhere at any time.

Additionally, this amendment would provide funding to support distance learning services. These funds will go toward providing better educational opportunities to students in rural areas. There is no reason children should be at a disadvantage simply because of their location.

This amendment reduces the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration by \$3.4 million back to the FY14-enacted levels. GIPSA's responsibility is to oversee the marketing of livestock, poultry, meats, grains, and other agriculture products. This agency has more than ample re-

sources to do its work, and it is only reducing funds to the FY14-enacted levels.

This amendment will provide so much more to the people in our rural communities, and I urge a "yes" vote. I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. Does anyone wish to speak in opposition to the amendment?

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the chairman for his support, and I thank the chairman of the subcommittee for his support and encourage passage of this bill to help rural Colorado and rural America produce and provide greater telemedicine opportunities for the country.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$50,000,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for inspection and weighing services: *Provided*, That if grain export activities require additional supervision and oversight, or other uncontrollable factors occur, this limitation may be exceeded by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, \$816,000.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, including not to exceed \$50,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$1,005,189,000; and in addition, \$1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1327 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 138f): *Provided*, That funds provided for the Public Health Data Communication Infrastructure system shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no fewer than 148 full-time equivalent positions shall be employed during fiscal year 2015 for purposes dedicated solely to inspections and enforcement related to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRAYSON

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 19, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,500,000)".

Page 20, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert "(decreased by \$5,500,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman

from Florida and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, the purpose of this amendment is to reverse \$5.5 million in cuts for food safety and food inspection here in the United States.

Currently, the Food Safety and Inspection Service is funded at \$1,005,189,000 in this bill. That is \$5.5 million below the current enacted amount and \$17.581 million below the Senate allocation in their agriculture appropriations bill.

This bill seeks to remove \$5.5 million from a pay-for from the Farm Service Agency. The Farm Service Agency is funded at \$1,205,068,000 in this bill. That is over \$27 million above the current enacted amount, and it is \$65.5 million above the President's request and \$22.5 million above the Senate allocation.

Certainly, farm conservation and regulation is very important, and that is the function of the Farm Service Agency. However, food safety and food inspection is paramount because of all the problems that the country is facing today on this count.

According to this study by Robert Scharff that I have in my hand here from the Journal of Food Protection, dated 2012, the economic burden of health loss is due to foodborne illnesses in the United States. The cost of foodborne illnesses in the United States each year is \$77.7 billion. That is \$77.7 billion. Food safety and food losses and foodborne illnesses lead to 128,000 hospitalizations every year and, unfortunately, 3,000 deaths every year in the United States.

Specifically, we have a total of 3,036 deaths caused by bacteria, by parasites, and by viruses. The shame of it, Mr. Chairman, the ultimate shame, is that food poisoning is 100 percent preventable. Every single instance of death, hospitalization could be avoided if we had a properly funded and fully funded food inspection system. That is the dilemma that faces us today.

□ 1700

Each year, under this bill, the inspectors are required to inspect every animal before slaughter and each carcass after slaughter, in order to ensure that public health requirements are met.

In one recent year, this included 50 billion pounds of livestock carcasses, 59 billion pounds of poultry carcasses, and 4.3 billion pounds of processed egg products. At U.S. borders, they also inspected 3.3 billion pounds of imported meat and poultry products.

Increasingly, food safety is a global concern. Globalization of food production and trade increases the likelihood of international incidents involving contaminated food. Imported food products and ingredients are common in many countries, including our own.

Stronger food safety systems in export countries can reinforce local and cross border health security, but,

frankly, the ultimate responsibility is ours.

Seventy-five percent of new infectious diseases affecting humans over the past 10 years were caused by bacteria, viruses, and pathogens that started in animals and in animal products. Many of these diseases are in people who are related to the handling of infected domestic and wild animals during food production, in food markets, and at slaughterhouses.

Preventing disease starts at the farm, which is where the inspections take place. Preventing animal infections at the farm level can reduce foodborne illnesses.

For example, reducing the amount of salmonella in farm chickens by 50 percent through better farm management and inspections results in 50 percent fewer incidences of people getting sick from the bacteria. Salmonella-free chicken herds are what this country needs.

It is fundamentally irresponsible for this body to be cutting the Food Safety and Inspection Service budget. God help us all if there is some widespread outbreak in this country where we don't have 3,000 deaths a year, we don't have 30,000 deaths a year, but we have 300,000 deaths a year caused by poor food inspection standards.

We must restore this money to the budget, and I ask my colleagues to support this amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, the bill that we have on the floor provides over \$1 billion for the Food Safety and Inspection Service. The amount is an increase of \$3.8 million above the President's own request.

Food safety is certainly important. I don't think anyone can argue that that is not a very important issue that we have made in this bill. We have proven that by exceeding the amount requested by the minority's own administration request.

Now is not the time to be reducing funds from the Farm Service Agency. They are trying to implement the new farm bill and provide assistance to American farmers and ranchers.

We have a bipartisan request to prevent the administration from implementing their plan to close FSA offices. Support of the amendment is equivalent to supporting a closure of FSA offices across the country.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this amount, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, I would simply submit that we cannot expect more for less. If we are going to be reducing the budget for food inspection in this country, we will have less food inspections, we will have more disease, we will have more hospitalizations, and we will have more deaths.

That is not something that I want on my conscience. God help us all if such a thing happens, but I want to know that I did everything I could to avoid that from happening. It is fundamentally silly and wrong to think that we can cut the budget and somehow expect people to do more for less.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, let me just say that the Farm Service Agency is a very important aspect of this bill. We are hearing from a lot of our Members about FSA office closure. If this amendment passes, this may mean the closure of some of the FSA offices.

Again, I would oppose the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, \$898,000.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Farm Service Agency, \$1,205,068,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: *Provided further*, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: *Provided further*, That funds made available to county committees shall remain available until expended.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MCNERNEY

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. HOLDING). The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$11,000,000) (increased by \$11,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Chairman, the amendment my colleague Mr. GARAMENDI and I are offering simply decreases the funding for the Farm Service Agency by \$11 million and increases it by the same amount. The intent of this amendment is to ensure

that \$11 million goes towards the Emergency Conservation Program, or ECP.

Mr. Chairman, you might wonder why I would decrease and increase the amount by the same amount, but in the arcane world of appropriations, it is the intent of Congress—and we want to make sure that the intent is there—to put this money into the Emergency Conservation Program.

The ECP helps farmers and ranchers during severe drought. They are able to use this program's funding to repair damaged farm land or install measures for water conservation.

My State of California has more than 80,000 farmers and ranchers, accounting for 15 percent of national receipts for crops and 77.1 percent for the U.S. revenue for livestock and livestock products. State exports totaled approximately \$18 billion in value.

Unfortunately, California is experiencing a prolonged and serious drought. Conditions haven't improved. Snowpack and reservoirs are at historically low levels. This drought is a State emergency, and support will be needed through the rest of this year and next.

Our farmers and ranchers need every available resource right now, rather than responding after the fact when the damage is more severe. Programs like the ECP are critical for these farmers and ranchers in times of exceptional drought.

Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to my colleague from California (Mr. GARAMENDI).

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, my colleague from California has it right. California is in a severe drought, as well as half a dozen other States, including Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Georgia, Oregon, and Nevada.

The intent of this amendment is to signal to the Department of Agriculture to move some money out of the salaries and the support for the Farm Service Agency and over to the Emergency Conservation Program. We know \$11 million isn't going to do it, but it is a good start, and it is a signal that we need to send.

I know that, in my own district, we normally have over 500,000 acres of rice. This year, it will be 300,000 acres of rice planted. We have tens of thousands of acres of walnuts and almonds. Many of those orchards are going to die, unless there is an opportunity to provide for the emergency conservation programs that will be needed. Those are wells, pumps, and other systems.

We ought to do this. I urge an "aye" vote on this amendment. It moves money from one account to another account and back to the original account.

This is a messaging amendment. I ask for your "aye" vote.

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Chairman, our farmers need the assistance right now. I am glad that the House appears to be ready to take a vote.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes," and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. McNERNEY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARAMENDI

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 20, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert ", of which \$50,000,000 shall be for the emergency conservation program under title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.)."

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, I love messaging, and I appreciate the House acquiescing to the previous amendment that is a messaging amendment.

Now, let's do something. Let's not just send a message. Let's send \$50 million to the Department of Agriculture's Emergency Conservation Program, so that they can carry out an absolutely essential task, which is to assist farmers in States such as California, Nevada, Oregon, New Mexico, Texas, and Georgia. Those States are all experiencing drought. There will be others as this year progresses.

The money can be used immediately to set up water conservation programs. For example, earlier today, a research program that has been administered by the Department of Agriculture that has proven in several States, such as Maryland, Georgia, California, and others, is using modern technology like soil moisture sensing devices, coupled directly with irrigation systems that can be turned on when the plant needs water, not when the irrigator needs water.

Those systems can save between 20 and 40 percent of the normal consumption in the agricultural sector. That applies to virtually every kind of plant that might be grown.

It certainly applies in my own district with those almond orchards that are now without an adequate supply of water. If this was available to them now—as it could be if we were to pass this amendment and the appropriation bill—those farmers could then access this money, put in place those water conservation technologies, and stretch their supply, allowing them to keep their orchards alive.

God forbid that we have another drought.

Under the present scenario, thousands of orchards in California will die for lack of water, but if we can save this year and next year 20 to 40 percent of the water that is available, which is possible if we actually enact this legislation and provide the kind of incentive—in this case, 75 percent Federal, 25 percent farmer—we could keep those orchards alive.

So I appeal to my colleagues that we allow this to be done. The money comes from the overall account that is within the Department that provides for administrative expenses and salaries. Move it from there over to this conservation account. That money would then be available to farmers to use.

We ought to do this. We have other drought legislation that has moved through this House and went to the Senate, but there is no money in those accounts—well, we have the money.

The question is: Are we willing to make it available for farmers in any State where there is a drought emergency?

I would ask for your "aye" vote on this, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, this is the first time that we have seen this amendment.

I do have to rise in opposition. We are very concerned that this is not the appropriate time to be reducing funds for FSAs. We are trying to implement the new farm program at this time, providing assistance to the farmers and ranchers across America.

□ 1715

We have had bipartisan requests to prevent the administration from implementing its plan to close FSA offices. Members on both sides of the aisle have voiced their concerns to us about these closures. Supporting this amendment is equivalent to supporting the closure of offices, so I would urge my colleagues to oppose the amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5101–5106), \$3,404,000.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out well-head or groundwater protection activities under section 1240O of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb-2), \$2,500,000, to remain available until expended.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers and

manufacturers of dairy products under a dairy indemnity program, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such program is carried out by the Secretary in the same manner as the dairy indemnity program described in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106-387, 114 Stat. 1549A-12).

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND
PROGRAM ACCOUNT
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed farm ownership (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) and operating (7 U.S.C. 1941 et seq.) loans, emergency loans (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.), Indian tribe land acquisition loans (25 U.S.C. 488), boll weevil loans (7 U.S.C. 1989), guaranteed conservation loans (7 U.S.C. 1924 et seq.), and Indian highly fractionated land loans (25 U.S.C. 488) to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: \$2,000,000,000 for guaranteed farm ownership loans and \$1,500,000,000 for farm ownership direct loans; \$1,393,443,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans and \$1,252,004,000 for direct operating loans; emergency loans, \$34,667,000; Indian tribe land acquisition loans, \$2,000,000; guaranteed conservation loans, \$150,000,000; Indian highly fractionated land loans, \$10,000,000; and for boll weevil eradication program loans, \$60,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall deem the pink bollworm to be a boll weevil for the purpose of boll weevil eradication program loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans and grants, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: farm operating loans, \$63,101,000 for direct operating loans, \$14,770,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans, and emergency loans, \$856,000, to remain available until expended.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$314,918,000, of which \$306,998,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership, operating and conservation direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Risk Management Agency, \$77,094,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).

CORPORATIONS

The following corporations and agencies are hereby authorized to make expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation or agency, except as hereinafter provided.

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND
For payments as authorized by section 516 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1516), such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND
REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a-11): *Provided*, That of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i) for the conduct of its business with the Foreign Agricultural Service, up to \$5,000,000 may be transferred to and used by the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service that are not related to Commodity Credit Corporation business.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT
(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

For the current fiscal year, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than \$5,000,000 for site investigation and cleanup expenses, and operations and maintenance expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9607(g)), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6961).

TITLE II
CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, \$898,000.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for carrying out the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a-f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed \$100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 428a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, \$843,053,000, to remain available until September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed \$250,000: *Provided further*, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a.

WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Under the authorities of section 14 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, \$25,000,000 is provided.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROUN OF
GEORGIA

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk, and I ask unanimous consent that the

gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) be listed as a cosponsor of my amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. An amendment may not be cosponsored.

The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 26, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced to \$0)".

Page 82, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$25,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Georgia and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would eliminate all funding provided in the bill for the Watershed Rehabilitation Program.

Across the United States, 11,000 dams have been constructed in local communities under this program for the purpose of mitigating flood conditions. Most of these dams were built in the 1940s and 1950s, and thousands of them are suspected to be in need of attention. Of this amount, only about 120 dams have been repaired so as to extend their use into modern times. Indeed, given the advances of engineering technology in the last 50 years, these refurbished dams may last well into the next century, but Federal funding to maintain these many-State infrastructure projects is simply not sustainable.

Under the farm bill passed earlier this year, the Watershed Rehabilitation Program was authorized to receive both increased mandatory as well as discretionary funding. However, the President has not requested funding for this program in over 3 years, in large part because he recognizes that the responsibility to maintain these projects must ultimately fall on the local project sponsors. Likewise, over in the Senate, zero dollars has been provided via discretionary spending in recent years; and according to the Congressional Research Service, it is expected that the mandatory spending will ultimately be canceled permanently. In fact, the Watershed Rehabilitation Program has never been allowed to spend mandatory funding.

So why is the House falling all over itself to fund this program?

Mr. Chairman, as long as the Federal Government is involved in this dam program, the process of identifying problem dams and implementing rehabilitation plans will be much like everything else the Federal Government undertakes. It will be slow, painstaking, and way too expensive.

In my home State of Georgia, we have many dams that we depend on to mitigate heavy rains and prevent floods. I have to say, Mr. Chairman, that I agree with the President here. I don't agree with him sometimes, and I do agree with him many times, but in this place, I agree with him in that we ought to leave the maintenance of

these projects to the States. They know better than the Federal Government what works for their communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, which is to limit spending money that we just don't have.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to hear that my friend from Georgia agrees with the President on something. That is kind of a fascinating turn of events considering his traditional record, but let's focus for a moment on what the upstream flood control dams do.

This is a program that began in the 1940s to build small earthen dams—too small to fall within the Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction—to act as interlocking flood control structures to protect people and property and assets below the structures wherever they may be, all the way to the Atlantic Ocean or all the way to the Pacific Ocean.

The problem, you see, is that, as meritorious and as wonderful as these 3,000 structures have worked, time takes its toll on everything, and if we don't pursue this program to rehabilitate them—to extend the life—not only will they not continue the protection of people and of property and of wildlife and not only will they not restrain the silt and manage floods, but they will have to be taken out, and all of the good they have done will be undone.

So what does this language in the bill do?

It provides cost share money so that local entities can rehabilitate these structures.

My colleague was exactly right in that the advance of technology is tremendous. The work that is done should last—instead of 50 years—100 years or more, but we have got 3,000 of these structures, and they are getting older. Spending a little money to extend their lives to continue to protect wildlife and people and property from every structure all the way to the ocean seems like a wise use of resources.

Now, I understand that there is something like \$900 million in requested funding in 2014 to meet this need. This farm bill language doesn't meet all of that need, but it takes a huge step in the right direction. We spend a lot of money around here on things that last just a few minutes or a few hours or a few days. This is an investment that will last a century in building on a previous half century's investment—a wise use of resources.

The government built these dams to protect life and property, and many of these structures are hitting their life expectancies. Let's spend a little bit to continue that wise investment. Yes, let's keep the silt out of the streams, and, yes, let's enhance the wildlife

qualities up and down these streams, but don't ever forget not just the property but the people who can sleep at night without the fear of what Mother Nature may do because of the upstream flood control dams.

I urge my colleagues to reject this amendment. I urge them to continue to support the investment that has been so wisely made since the 1940s. Please vote "no."

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, my good friend, the chairman of the Agriculture Committee, is very erudite in his discussion against my amendment, but the facts are these: there is \$250 million authorized in the farm bill—in his own bill. In this bill, there is \$92 million in mandatory spending that is being appropriated, and I am not touching debt whatsoever. The mandatory spending has never gone out.

I certainly know about farm dams and how flood control works. In fact, back in 1994, I was living in Americus, Georgia—I was practicing medicine there—and we had a hurricane that parked itself right over Americus, Georgia. In a 24-hour period, we had 25 inches of rain, and 30 people died in southwest Georgia because of the upstream dams' failing one by one in a fashion that was just like dominoes that were falling over. The water ran into Lake Blackshear, Georgia. Then it went from there down to Albany, Georgia, and there was a tremendous flood in Albany. All of southwest Georgia got flooded, and 30 people were killed because of it.

I certainly know about that, and I have a great feeling for that, but the problem is that the mandatory spending has never been spent. What I am doing in my amendment is just striking the \$25 million extra in discretionary spending. I believe that we ought to repair those dams. We need to help make sure that we have some flood mitigation, but we are not utilizing the authorized money or the appropriated money appropriately.

We are in an economic emergency as a nation. Let's utilize our money from a fiscally sane perspective. That is what I am trying to do, and I encourage the acceptance of my amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROUN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DUNCAN OF
TENNESSEE

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 26, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$10,000,000)".

Page 82, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentleman from Tennessee and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, my amendment deals with the same part of the bill as Mr. BROUN's, and it is very similar.

My amendment would save \$10 million by reducing the increase in this program, the Watershed Rehabilitation Program. Let me repeat that, Mr. Chairman. My amendment simply reduces the increase. It is not a cut. In fact, this program would still be getting a 25 percent increase in discretionary funds even if my amendment were approved. In addition, this program has had a restriction on mandatory spending since 2002. Under this bill, this restriction is being removed.

This means that, without my amendment, spending on this program, which was \$12 million this year and \$13.6 million last year, will go to \$117 million this next fiscal year. No other department or agency in the Federal Government is receiving this type of increase—almost 10 times what is being spent on this program during this fiscal year.

This is a program for which the President requested no funding, as Mr. BROUN mentioned, and for which the Senate Appropriations Committee provides no funding, which he also mentioned. Surely, Republicans in the House are not going to allow the President or the Senate to act in a more fiscally conservative manner than we here in the House.

□ 1730

Most State and local governments are in much better fiscal shape than the Federal Government is with our \$17.6 trillion national debt. They can carry out this program, where necessary, or farmers themselves can do some improvement.

The National Taxpayers Union supports this amendment and has announced that they will be including my amendment in their ratings of congressional votes.

Mr. Chairman, this is a very modest attempt to do at least a little something about our horrendous debt. Admiral Mike Mullen, a very respected man who was Chairman of our Joint Chiefs of Staff a couple of years ago gave several speeches and testified before several committees of the House and Senate; and he said over and over again that our national debt is the greatest threat to our national security. This amendment is a small step, but an important step toward doing something about that.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LUCAS. My friends, once again, slightly different amount, same subject.

What can I say?

Yes, in the process of putting the farm bill together, where we saved \$23 billion, we looked very carefully at all of the programs underneath our jurisdictions. Many things were reformed, reducing spending.

Some things that have worked extremely well actually received more resources. I think that part of being competent and wise legislators is assessing how the resources are used, reducing spending in wasteful areas, and enhancing spending in areas that are wisely spent. I think that is what we are about here.

Now, I know that apparently there are outside groups that have chosen to score this, and I would remind my friends that they score a variety of things. But why do you have to pick on the things that affect rural America?

Why do you have to address the infrastructure issues that go after public safety, preservation of property, life itself?

I suppose if you are sitting somewhere in an ivory tower typing out scorecards, you can pick the things that are less relevant to you.

But of those 3,000 structures scattered across America, dating back to the 1940s, countless, countless lives and millions, if not hundreds of millions, of dollars of property have been protected. I think that is a good use of our resources, a wise commitment in how we allocate our funds.

Now, some of my colleagues have alluded to the way in which the funds are handled, the mandatory dollars coming through the farm bill every so many years and how, in the magical process called appropriations, some of that mandatory money becomes discretionary.

I do not pretend to have enough time to discuss the nuances of that art form, but I will say this: as long as the resources are of sufficient caliber to make a major effort in meeting the needs that exist, whether it is through the every 5-year farm bill or the annual appropriations process by our friends on the Ag Subcommittee of Appropriations, let's just do the right thing. And on this occasion, we are doing the right thing.

If you care about long-term investments, if you care about public safety, if you care about property—and I repeat one more time: for those of you have ever been in the field that look at these structures, they act to control silt flows in streams. That is important to wildlife and fish. That is important to water quality, and they inhibit these floods that come, and then they meter the water out in a slow fashion.

The overwhelming lion's share of them do not impound water, they simply slow the process down so that the streams and rivers below can handle it.

My real regret here is that we haven't put more effort in the last 50 years into these structures. If we had, if we would have, if we could, or if we will some day, the effect on the environment, the effect on our fellow citizens will be tremendous, even more than it is now.

Again, please reject this amendment. I know my Republican friends here are very sincere in following the President's lead on this, but please reject this amendment. Let's continue to make this investment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I will simply repeat that my amendment does not go as far as Mr. BROWN's. It would save \$10 million, if adopted.

This program, if my amendment is not adopted, will receive an increase almost 10 times the amount that is being spent on this program in this fiscal year. It would seem to me that most people in this country would feel it is ridiculous to give any program a tenfold increase. I know the Congress is very generous in spending other people's money, but they are going too far on this.

I urge my colleagues to support my very minimal, modest amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

I respect my colleague from Tennessee greatly. I believe he is very sincere in what he is trying to do. I do not question his motives. I have great faith in Congressman DUNCAN.

But this amendment, like the previous amendment, has long-term ramifications. They have long-term ramifications on previous investments made.

Let's reject these two amendments. Let's continue the good work that has been done. Let's focus on the things that we need to be doing.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee will be postponed.

The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TITLE III

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, \$898,000.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs in the Rural Development mission area, including activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements; \$224,201,000: *Provided*, That no less than \$15,000,000 shall be for the Comprehensive Loan Accounting System: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the Rural Development mission area: *Provided further*, That any balances available from prior years for the Rural Utilities Service, Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Business-Cooperative Service salaries and expenses accounts shall be transferred to and merged with this appropriation.

RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: \$1,042,276,000 shall be for direct loans and \$24,000,000,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; \$26,372,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; \$28,398,000 for section 515 rental housing; \$150,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; \$10,000,000 for credit sales of single family housing acquired property; \$5,000,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans; and \$5,000,000 for section 524 site development loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, \$76,920,000 shall be for direct loans; section 504 housing repair loans, \$3,700,000; and repair, rehabilitation, and new construction of section 515 rental housing, \$9,800,000: *Provided*, That to support the loan program level for section 538 guaranteed loans made available under this heading the Secretary may charge or adjust any fees to cover the projected cost of such loan guarantees pursuant to the provisions of the Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), and the interest on such loans may not be subsidized: *Provided further*, That of the amounts available under this paragraph for section 502 direct loans, no less than \$5,000,000 shall be available for direct loans for individuals whose homes will be built pursuant to a program funded with a mutual and self-help housing grant authorized by section 523 of the Housing Act of 1949 until June 1, 2015.

In addition, for the cost of direct loans, grants, and contracts, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1484 and 1486, \$15,936,000, to remain available until expended, for direct farm labor housing loans and domestic farm labor housing grants and contracts: *Provided*, That any balances available for the Farm Labor Program Account shall be transferred to and merged with this account.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$415,100,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) or agreements entered

into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, \$1,088,500,000; and, in addition, such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: *Provided*, That rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed during the current fiscal year shall be funded for a 1-year period: *Provided further*, That rental assistance contracts will not be renewed within the 12-month contract period: *Provided further*, That any unexpended balances remaining at the end of such 1-year agreements may be transferred and used for the purposes of any debt reduction; maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation of any existing projects; preservation; and rental assistance activities authorized under title V of the Act: *Provided further*, That rental assistance provided under agreements entered into prior to fiscal year 2015 for a farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act may not be recaptured for use in another project until such assistance has remained unused for a period of 12 consecutive months, if such project has a waiting list of tenants seeking such assistance or the project has rental assistance eligible tenants who are not receiving such assistance: *Provided further*, That such recaptured rental assistance shall, to the extent practicable, be applied to another farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act.

MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the rural housing voucher program as authorized under section 542 of the Housing Act of 1949, but notwithstanding subsection (b) of such section, and for additional costs to conduct a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph, \$28,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$8,000,000, shall be available for rural housing vouchers to any low-income household (including those not receiving rental assistance) residing in a property financed with a section 515 loan which has been prepaid after September 30, 2005: *Provided further*, That the amount of such voucher shall be the difference between comparable market rent for the section 515 unit and the tenant paid rent for such unit: *Provided further*, That funds made available for such vouchers shall be subject to the availability of annual appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, administer such vouchers with current regulations and administrative guidance applicable to section 8 housing vouchers administered by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that the amount made available for vouchers in this or any other Act is not needed for vouchers, the Secretary may use such funds for the demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$20,000,000 shall be available for a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the sections 514, 515, and 516 multi-family rental housing properties to restructure existing USDA multi-family housing loans, as the Secretary deems appropriate, expressly for the purposes of ensuring the project has sufficient resources to preserve the project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for low-in-

come residents and farm laborers including reducing or eliminating interest; deferring loan payments, subordinating, reducing or reamortizing loan debt; and other financial assistance including advances, payments and incentives (including the ability of owners to obtain reasonable returns on investment) required by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall as part of the preservation and revitalization agreement obtain a restrictive use agreement consistent with the terms of the restructuring: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that additional funds for vouchers described in this paragraph are needed, funds for the preservation and revitalization demonstration program may be used for such vouchers: *Provided further*, That if Congress enacts legislation to permanently authorize a multi-family rental housing loan restructuring program similar to the demonstration program described herein, the Secretary may use funds made available for the demonstration program under this heading to carry out such legislation with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That in addition to any other available funds, the Secretary may expend not more than \$1,000,000 total, from the program funds made available under this heading, for administrative expenses for activities funded under this heading.

MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), \$30,000,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For grants for very low-income housing repair made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, \$27,000,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$2,200,000,000 for direct loans and \$73,222,000 for guaranteed loans.

For the cost of guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, \$3,500,000, to remain available until expended.

For the cost of grants for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$27,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That \$5,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for a Rural Community Development Initiative: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be used solely to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to qualified private, nonprofit and public intermediary organizations proposing to carry out a program of financial and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That such intermediary organizations shall provide matching funds from other sources, including Federal funds for related activities, in an amount not less than funds provided: *Provided further*, That \$5,000,000 of the amount

appropriated under this heading shall be to provide grants for facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression (Public Law 106-387), with up to 5 percent for administration and capacity building in the State rural development offices: *Provided further*, That \$4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for community facilities grants to tribal colleges, as authorized by section 306(a)(19) of such Act: *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of loan guarantees and grants, for the rural business development programs authorized by section 310B and described in section 310B (a), (c), and (g) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$65,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed \$500,000 shall be made available for one grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: *Provided further*, That \$4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for business grants to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, including \$250,000 for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: *Provided further*, That for purposes of determining eligibility or level of program assistance the Secretary shall not include incarcerated prison populations: *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to funds made available under this heading.

INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), \$16,234,000.

For the cost of direct loans, \$5,000,000, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), of which \$531,000 shall be available through June 30, 2015, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes; and of which \$1,021,000 shall be available through June 30, 2015, for Mississippi Delta Region counties (as determined in accordance with Public Law 100-460): *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, \$4,439,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, \$59,456,000.

Of the funds derived from interest on the cushion of credit payments, as authorized by section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, \$155,000,000 shall not be obligated and \$155,000,000 are rescinded.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), \$22,050,000, of which \$2,500,000 shall be for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,000,000 shall be for grants for cooperative development centers, individual cooperatives, or groups of cooperatives that serve socially disadvantaged groups and a majority of the boards of directors or governing boards of which are comprised of individuals who are members of socially disadvantaged groups; and of which \$10,750,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for value-added agricultural product market development grants, as authorized by section 231 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1632a).

RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

For the cost of a program of loan guarantees, under the same terms and conditions as authorized by section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107), \$3,500,000: *Provided*, That the cost of loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

RURAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PROGRAM
ACCOUNT

For loans for the rural business investment program, as authorized by section 384F(b)(3)(A) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$4,000,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM
ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants for the rural water, waste water, waste disposal, and solid waste management programs authorized by sections 306, 306A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B and described in sections 306C(a)(2), 306D, 306E, and 381E(d)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, \$466,893,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$1,000,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306(a)(2)(B) of such Act, and of which not to exceed \$993,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306E of such Act: *Provided*, That \$66,500,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for loans and grants including water and waste disposal systems grants authorized by 306C(a)(2)(B) and 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Federally recognized Native American Tribes authorized by 306C(a)(1), and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (of the State of Hawaii): *Provided further*, That funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be provided to a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105-83: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by the State of Alaska for training and technical assistance programs and not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105-83 for training and technical assistance programs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$19,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for technical assistance grants for rural water and waste systems pursuant to

section 306(a)(14) of such Act, unless the Secretary makes a determination of extreme need, of which \$6,000,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified non-profit multi-state regional technical assistance organization, with experience in working with small communities on water and waste water problems, the principal purpose of such grant shall be to assist rural communities with populations of 3,300 or less, in improving the planning, financing, development, operation, and management of water and waste water systems, and of which not less than \$800,000 shall be for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for tribal communities: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$15,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$4,000,000 shall be for solid waste management grants: *Provided further*, That any prior year balances for high-energy cost grants authorized by section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a) shall be transferred to and merged with the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account: *Provided further*, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by sections 305 and 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935 and 936) shall be made as follows: loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural electric, \$5,000,000,000; guaranteed underwriting loans pursuant to section 313A, \$500,000,000; 5 percent rural telecommunications loans, cost of money rural telecommunications loans, and for loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural telecommunications loans, \$690,000,000: *Provided*, That up to \$2,000,000,000 shall be used for the construction, acquisition, or improvement of fossil-fueled electric generating plants (whether new or existing) that utilize carbon sequestration systems.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$34,478,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses".

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND
BROADBAND PROGRAM

For the principal amount of broadband telecommunication loans, \$24,077,000.

For grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., \$20,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For the cost of broadband loans, as authorized by section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act, \$4,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the cost of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, \$10,372,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant program to finance broadband transmission in rural areas eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program benefits authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa.

TITLE IV

DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD,
NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, \$816,000.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; \$20,523,795,000 to remain available through September 30, 2016, of which such sums as are made available under section 14222(b)(1) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246), as amended by this Act, shall be merged with and available for the same time period and purposes as provided herein: *Provided*, That of the total amount available, \$17,004,000 shall be available to carry out section 19 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$25,000,000 shall be available to provide competitive grants to State agencies for subgrants to local educational agencies and schools to purchase the equipment needed to serve healthier meals, improve food safety, and to help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the school breakfast program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, \$27,000,000 shall remain available until expended to carry out section 749(g) of the Agriculture Appropriations Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-80).

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM
FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), \$6,623,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 17(h)(10) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(h)(10)), not less than \$60,000,000 shall be used for breastfeeding peer counselors and other related activities, \$14,000,000 shall be used for infrastructure, \$30,000,000 shall be used for management information systems, and \$25,000,000 shall be used for WIC electronic benefit transfer systems and activities: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other Federal Government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That upon termination of a federally-mandated vendor moratorium and subject to terms and conditions established by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive the requirement at 7 CFR 246.12(g)(6) at the request of a State agency.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), \$82,251,138,000, of which \$3,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016, shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: *Provided*, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$998,000 may be used to provide nutrition education services to State agencies and Federally recognized tribes participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: *Provided further*, That funds made available for

Employment and Training under this heading shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for a study on Indian tribal administration of nutrition programs, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79), and a study of the removal of cash benefits in Puerto Rico, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79) shall be available until expended: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for section 28(d)(1) and section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for employment and training pilot projects, as provided in title IV of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79), shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to enter into contracts and employ staff to conduct studies, evaluations, or to conduct activities related to program integrity provided that such activities are authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. SPEIER

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee). The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 45, line 16, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000)” after the 1st dollar amount.

Page 45, line 16, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000)” after the 1st dollar amount.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentlewoman from California and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Chairman, I am joined in making this amendment by my colleague from Michigan (Mr. BENISHEK).

This particular amendment addresses the issue of veterans in this country who are living on the edge, the 1.4 million veterans who are living in poverty, the 900,000 who are on food stamps.

We do know there is a backlog that exists, even now, with veterans' disability claims from 572,000 currently around the country, some waiting as long as 200 days. This amendment is going to make them eligible for SNAP benefits under the disabled category, which will, for all intents and purposes, allow them to access food that is prepared and also deduct medical expenses for their status.

Filing for SNAP under the disabled status can provide much-needed assistance with minimal cost. For a veteran with war-related mental or physical injuries, this small amount of help can make an enormous difference.

Again, I want to thank Congressman BENISHEK for his cosponsorship of this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in support of the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Michigan is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support a very commonsense amendment.

I think we can all agree that no disabled veteran should go hungry. Those who have served our Nation with honor and distinction, and come home as wounded veterans deserve great honor, not a life of hardship.

Unfortunately, not all of our veterans have fared well following their tours of duty. From the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan alone, 45 percent of the 1.6 million veterans are applying for benefits with the VA. Only about one-third have been granted benefits so far.

□ 1745

The VA has almost 600,000 pending disability claims as of April 2014, with 23 percent of those from Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.

This amendment would allow veterans to apply for SNAP benefits while their disability claims are pending with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Just like all Americans, veterans would still be required to meet income eligibility requirements for SNAP. However, they would no longer have to wait on the backlog that is so prevalent at the VA to find out if they would be eligible for these specific benefits.

Mr. Chairman, our Nation's veterans should never live under the threat of hunger due to an administrative backlog in Washington. They deserve better. This amendment is fully paid for and just makes sense. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Chairman, as my colleague said, this is truly a simple amendment that holds our poor veterans harmless while we deal with the dysfunction in the VA. It is a compassionate and appropriate action by this House. I urge its passage.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out disaster assistance and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983; special assistance for the nuclear affected islands, as authorized by section 103(f)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-188); and the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, \$275,701,000, to remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided*, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the pro-

gram: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective with funds made available in fiscal year 2015 to support the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, such funds shall remain available through September 30, 2016: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)), the Secretary may use up to 10 percent for costs associated with the distribution of commodities.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary administrative expenses of the Food and Nutrition Service for carrying out any domestic nutrition assistance program, \$150,824,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided herein, \$2,000,000 shall be used for the purposes of section 4404 of Public Law 107-171, as amended by section 4401 of Public Law 110-246.

TITLE V

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including not to exceed \$158,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), \$182,563,000: *Provided*, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1737) and the foreign assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided further*, That funds made available for middle-income country training programs, funds made available for the Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship program, and up to \$2,000,000 of the Foreign Agricultural Service appropriation solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service, shall remain available until expended.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the credit program of title I of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and the Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o), \$2,528,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses”: *Provided*, That of the unobligated balances provided pursuant to title I of the Food for Peace Act, \$13,000,000 are rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded pursuant to the previous proviso from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83-480), for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under title II of said Act, \$1,466,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, for

fiscal year 2015, the amount made available pursuant to section 412(e)(2) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f(e)(2)) to carry out nonemergency food assistance programs under title II of such Act shall be \$375,000,000.

MC GOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1), \$198,126,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Commodity Credit Corporation is authorized to provide the services, facilities, and authorities for the purpose of implementing such section, subject to reimbursement from amounts provided herein.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS) CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Guarantee Program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, \$6,748,000; to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, of which \$6,394,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses", and of which \$354,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses".

TITLE VI

**RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92-313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed \$25,000; and notwithstanding section 521 of Public Law 107-188; \$4,442,048,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$798,000,000 shall be derived from prescription drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$128,282,000 shall be derived from medical device user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$312,116,000 shall be derived from human generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-42, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$21,014,000 shall be derived from biosimilar biological product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-52, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$22,464,000 shall be derived from animal drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-12, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$6,944,000 shall be derived from animal generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-21, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$566,000,000 shall be derived from tobacco product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 387s, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended;

\$1,434,000 shall be derived from food and feed recall fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-31, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; \$6,414,000 shall be derived from food reinspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-31, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; and \$5,300,000 shall be derived from voluntary qualified importer program fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-31, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That in addition and notwithstanding any other provision under this heading, amounts collected for prescription drug user fees, medical device user fees, human generic drug user fees, biosimilar biological product user fees, animal drug user fees, and animal generic drug user fees that exceed the respective fiscal year 2015 limitations are appropriated and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees derived from prescription drug, medical device, human generic drug, biosimilar biological product, animal drug, and animal generic drug assessments for fiscal year 2015, including any such fees collected prior to fiscal year 2015 but credited for fiscal year 2015, shall be subject to the fiscal year 2015 limitations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may accept payment during fiscal year 2015 of user fees specified under this heading and authorized for fiscal year 2016, prior to the due date for such fees, and that amounts of such fees assessed for fiscal year 2016 for which the Secretary accepts payment in fiscal year 2015 shall not be included in amounts under this heading: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated: (1) \$913,784,000 shall be for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (2) \$1,326,402,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (3) \$344,267,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (4) \$171,783,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (5) \$420,548,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (6) \$62,494,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) \$531,527,000 shall be for the Center for Tobacco Products and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (8) not to exceed \$163,471,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which \$47,116,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (9) not to exceed \$228,839,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; and (10) \$278,933,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, the Office of Medical and Tobacco Products, the Office of Global and Regulatory Policy, the Office of Operations, the Office of the Chief Scientist, and central services for these offices: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$25,000 of this amount shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Commissioner: *Provided further*, That any transfer of funds pursuant to section 770(n) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379dd(n)) shall only be from amounts made available under this heading for other activities: *Provided*

further, That funds may be transferred from one specified activity to another with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263b, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381, priority review user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360n, outsourcing facility fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j-62, prescription drug wholesale distributor licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 353(e)(3), and third-party logistics provider licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360eee-3(c)(1), may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, \$8,788,000, to remain available until expended.

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, \$217,578,000, including not to exceed \$3,000 for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed \$25,000 for the expenses for consultations and meetings hosted by the Commission with foreign governmental and other regulatory officials, of which \$52,578,000, shall be for the purchase of information technology until September 30, 2016, and of which not less than \$1,885,000 shall be for the Office of the Inspector General: *Provided*, That the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission shall develop and report to the Committees of jurisdiction of both Houses of Congress within 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a schedule of implementation and sequencing of all rules, regulations, and orders under section 716 or 722(d) of Public Law 111-203, section 1a(49)(D) or 4m of the Commodity Exchange Act, or any of the amendments made by section 737 of Public Law 111-203, including all Commission cost benefit analyses and studies relied upon in the formulation of any regulations issued in implementing any of such sections or amendments.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. DELAURO

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 57, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$17,578,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 616, the gentlewoman from Connecticut and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, currently this bill mandates that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission spend \$52.6 million of its already limited budget on information technology. My amendment, put forward with my colleagues Congresswoman WATERS of California and Congressman HIMES of Connecticut, reduces this IT set-aside back to its current level of \$35 million.

Americans want to see more accountability from Wall Street and oil speculators and fewer reckless transactions,

market failures, and bailouts. That is the CFTC's job, to rein in gambling with risky derivatives on Wall Street and prevent undue speculation on oil.

Republican and Democratic experts both have argued that the current funding level purposefully sets the CFTC up for failure. The current bill leaves CFTC dangerously underfunded, 22 percent below the President's request. This increased IT set-aside is equivalent to reducing their budget by another 7 percent below last year's level.

By returning this set-aside to \$35 million, our amendment gives the Commission more flexibility to spend the budget they have on enforcement and examinations, to put more "cops on the beat," as it were, if they see fit.

This represents neither a cut nor a rise in the current level of CFTC funding. While I think we should fund them higher, this amendment merely lets them use their budget to do their job, and they manage to do a lot, even with the limited resources we have given them.

Last year, the Commission's enforcement division brought in just over \$1 billion to the Treasury. That is more than the Congress has provided the Commission in the last 5 years.

According to Acting Chairman Wetjen:

The unfortunate reality is that, at current funding levels, the Commission is unable to adequately fulfill the mission given to it by Congress.

The agency's enforcement staff is already smaller than it was in 2002, when the Commission was just responsible for the futures and options market.

Today, this smaller staff has additional important and extremely complex oversight responsibilities. They must now also oversee the \$400 trillion swaps market, and they are responsible for pursuing cases against reckless, manipulative, or deceptive schemes.

We need to give the Commission the flexibility in allocating resources that it needs to do its job, to oversee risky market behaviors, protect consumers, and enforce the law. This amendment will allow them to do that, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, this amendment would severely starve the very regulator charged with overseeing the swaps, futures, and options markets of desperately needed information technology resources.

The bill I brought before the House this afternoon would return information technology investments to just below the FY 2012 level, and this amendment would reduce IT by 33 percent.

This amendment would only accomplish one objective, to grow the size of our government bureaucracy by hiring

unnneeded personnel to write more overreaching rules and regulations. Staff at the CFTC is already at a record high.

The CFTC is preparing to regulate high-frequency trading. This amendment would ignore the reality of a regulator whose 82 percent of its employees make more than six-figure incomes, and staff enters by hand almost 20,000 paper forms per year. This is an exhaustive and costly exercise. This amendment would reward those misplaced resources.

CFTC has seen a 166 percent increase in the amount of data it takes in. It takes in hundreds of millions of records per day and does not have the capability to store that data internally.

The amendment ignores the advice of former CFTC chief economist, who was the recipient of the Chairman Gary Gensler's award for excellence in 2010, who stated:

Financial regulation should recognize that automation and increasingly higher transaction speeds make it nearly impossible for humans to provide effective layers of risk management.

Regulators need to change their surveillance and enforcement practices to be more cyber-centric rather than human-centric.

Therefore, based on that information, I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, the fact of the matter is that this amendment gives the CFTC flexibility. That is all it does. It could spend all of that money on IT. If they want to spend it on enforcement staff, they would be able to do it. This leaves them the flexibility to make the determinations based on what the needs are.

With that, I yield the balance of my time to my colleague from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES).

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Chairman, I rise to join happily in the amendment offered by my neighbor and close friend from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) and the gentlewoman from California, Ranking Member WATERS.

One of the crucial achievements of the Dodd-Frank bill, of course, was to drag a massive and, in some cases, very dangerous derivatives market into the light of day by giving CFTC authority to look at the instruments which brought down AIG, which were involved in the London Whale, which when used incorrectly can create a systemic risk to the system, and this is a market that has been growing very, very rapidly.

In 2010, the total derivatives market was about \$124 trillion. That is trillion with a t. That is a multiple of the size of the U.S. economy. Today, it has almost doubled that, \$223 trillion. Now, these are securities that can cause all sorts of havoc if not adequately regulated.

This amendment, as Ms. DELAURO pointed out, in no way expands bureaucracy. We are not saying spend more money, though there is a very powerful argument for spending more

money on an agency that has been tasked to take on a massive new market. It is simply providing flexibility.

The question before this House on this amendment comes down to a very simple question: We are either going to provide discretion to the CFTC to run to where they think the danger is—and if they think that their IT is insufficient, they can spend this money on the IT—they are either going to run to where the danger is or we, as a House, are going to decide that we are such crack IT professionals that we should tell the CFTC that they must spend this money on their system. Folks, that doesn't make any sense.

Therefore, I urge support for this amendment to provide the CFTC the flexibility that they need in regulating this market.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman from Connecticut has expired.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, let's be very practical about this. I think you have to put it in the context of what has happened.

We passed the Dodd-Frank bill because of an incredible financial disaster in this country, and what we found out is that the regulators weren't regulating. We found out they couldn't regulate because they didn't even have regulations or any provisions about all of these derivatives swaps. They were inventing new things that weren't even in law.

The Federal Commodity Futures Trading Commission is right at the heart of all these new instruments and all these derivatives swaps and so on. In fact, we learned from Director Gensler—who came before our committee and pointed out the massive amount of trading that goes on, \$300 trillion dollars.

We couldn't even figure out in the committee how to explain how many millions trillions were. It is so much, and it is scary. We have got to have people on the job to do this and the technology to do it.

Now, just to make sure that people are carrying out the law, you have got to have people review that process. In fact, because the industry doesn't want to be regulated, they go to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and say: cut this, don't give them the tools to implement it, don't allow them to be the referees they have to be by law.

We approved, last year, \$315 million, and we criticized that. The President came back for \$280 million this year, and we have cut that. Even when he went along with knowing that he wouldn't be able to get all the things he asked for, we cut it again, so this bill fences off part of that. It seems to me a reasonable amendment to adopt, and I urge the adoption of it.

I yield to the gentlewoman from California, MAXINE WATERS, the ranking member of the committee.

Ms. WATERS. I would like to thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chairman, as the ranking member of the Financial Services Committee, I feel it is extremely important to support this amendment. It is extremely important because we know that the work that we did on the reform measure, the Dodd-Frank measure, is so important to try to correct the lack of attention we were giving to our consumers and the fact that we needed to strengthen our financial services agencies.

So when I see there is an attempt to weaken something such as the CFTC or the SEC or the OCC or any of our regulatory agencies, it is important for me to speak out and help people to understand what is being attempted.

I urge support for this amendment to ensure our derivatives cop can protect our financial markets and economy.

Make no mistake, even with this amendment, inadequate Republican funding for the CFTC furthers a larger effort to undermine the oversight of derivatives.

□ 1800

While more funding is needed, this measure will at least prevent layoffs.

The CFTC thwarts Wall Street from manipulating the price of things like oil, corn, and gold. Without it, every American will feel the pain at the pump and the dinner table. The CFTC enforces laws Democrats enacted to rein in companies like AIG, whose activities led to the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression.

Despite overwhelming need, Republicans would undercut the CFTC under the guise of a modest IT increase, believing that if it just had the right computers, the CFTC could eliminate employees.

What they don't understand is that it takes real people to bring about justice and accountability. With funding far below the requested amount, the CFTC cannot operate without temporarily closing or sacking valuable talent, causing immediate harm to our markets with delays to agency guidance, to investors and businesses, examinations of companies entrusted with your funds, punishment of bad actors, and recovery of victims' money.

This is a continuation of an effort by Republicans and special interests to undercut laws and regulations that protect our consumers. I am not going to stand for it, and I urge Members to support this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

The gentleman from Alabama has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Again, Mr. Chairman, I just rise in opposition to the amendment. Again, this bill is important. The bill that we have before the House would return the information technology investments to just below

that of FY 2012, and this amendment will reduce IT by 33 percent. We feel like IT is very important. We think that the bill, as written, should stand, and therefore we would oppose the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Connecticut will be postponed.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed \$54,000,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions, including the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships: *Provided further*, That the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

An amendment by Mr. BROWN of Georgia.

An amendment by Mr. BROWN of Georgia.

Amendment No. 7 by Mr. ROYCE of California.

An amendment by Mr. GRAYSON of Florida.

An amendment by Mr. GARAMENDI of California.

An amendment by Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.

An amendment by Mr. BROWN of Georgia.

An amendment by Ms. DELAURO of Connecticut.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROWN OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROWN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 178, noes 243, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 300]

AYES—178

Amash	Gowdy	Pearce
Amodei	Graves (GA)	Perry
Bachmann	Graves (MO)	Petri
Barber	Griffin (AR)	Pittenger
Barletta	Griffith (VA)	Pitts
Barr	Guthrie	Poe (TX)
Barrow (GA)	Hanna	Pompeo
Barton	Harris	Posey
Benishek	Hartzler	Price (GA)
Bentivolio	Heck (NV)	Reed
Bilirakis	Hensarling	Renacci
Bishop (UT)	Herrera Beutler	Ribble
Black	Holding	Rice (SC)
Blackburn	Hudson	Rigell
Boustany	Huelskamp	Roe (TN)
Brady (TX)	Huizenga (MI)	Rogers (AL)
Bridenstine	Hultgren	Rohrabacher
Brooks (AL)	Hunter	Rokita
Brooks (IN)	Hurt	Roskam
Brown (GA)	Issa	Ross
Buchanan	Jenkins	Rothfus
Bucshon	Johnson (OH)	Royce
Burgess	Johnson, Sam	Ryan (WI)
Byrne	Jones	Salmon
Camp	Jordan	Sanford
Campbell	Kelly (PA)	Scalise
Cantor	King (IA)	Schock
Capito	Kingston	Schweikert
Cassidy	Labrador	Sensenbrenner
Chabot	Lamborn	Sessions
Chaffetz	Lance	Shimkus
Coble	Lankford	Shuster
Coffman	Latta	Sinema
Conaway	Long	Smith (MO)
Cook	Luetkemeyer	Smith (NE)
Cotton	Lummis	Smith (TX)
Davis, Rodney	Marchant	Southerland
Denham	Marino	Stivers
DeSantis	Massie	Stockman
DesJarlais	Matheson	Stutzman
Duffy	McCarthy (CA)	Terry
Duncan (SC)	McCaul	Thornberry
Duncan (TN)	McClintock	Tipton
Ellmers	McHenry	Upton
Farenthold	McKinley	Wagner
Fincher	McMorris	Walberg
Fleischmann	Rodgers	Walden
Fleming	Meadows	Walorski
Forbes	Meehan	Weber (TX)
Fox	Messer	Webster (FL)
Franks (AZ)	Mica	Wenstrup
Garcia	Miller (MI)	Westmoreland
Gardner	Mullin	Whitfield
Garrett	Mulvaney	Williams
Gibbs	Murphy (PA)	Wilson (SC)
Gibson	Neugebauer	Wittman
Gingrey (GA)	Nugent	Woodall
Gohmert	Olson	Yoder
Goodlatte	Palazzo	Yoho
Gosar	Paulsen	

NOES—243

Aderholt	Chu	Delaney
Bachus	Cicilline	DeLauro
Bass	Clark (MA)	DelBene
Beatty	Clarke (NY)	Dent
Becerra	Clay	Deutch
Bera (CA)	Cleaver	Diaz-Balart
Bishop (GA)	Clyburn	Dingell
Bishop (NY)	Cohen	Doggett
Blumenauer	Cole	Doyle
Bonamici	Collins (NY)	Duckworth
Brady (PA)	Connolly	Edwards
Braley (IA)	Conyers	Ellison
Brown (FL)	Cooper	Engel
Brownley (CA)	Costa	Enyart
Bustos	Courtney	Eshoo
Butterfield	Cramer	Esty
Calvert	Crawford	Farr
Capps	Crenshaw	Fattah
Capuano	Crowley	Fitzpatrick
Cárdenas	Cuellar	Flores
Carney	Culberson	Fortenberry
Carson (IN)	Cummings	Foster
Carter	Daines	Frankel (FL)
Cartwright	Davis (CA)	Frelinghuysen
Castor (FL)	DeFazio	Fudge
Castro (TX)	DeGette	Gabbard

Gallego Lujan Grisham Runyan
Garamendi (NM) Ruppersberger
Gerlach Luján, Ben Ray Rush
Granger (NM) Sánchez, Linda
Grayson Lynch T.
Green, Al Maffei Sanchez, Loretta
Green, Gene Maloney, Sarbanes
Grijalva Carolyn Schakowsky
Grimm Maloney, Sean Schiff
Gutiérrez Matsui Schneider
Hahn McAllister Schrader
Hall McCarthy (NY) Schwartz
Hanabusa McCollum Scott (VA)
Harper McDermott Scott, Austin
Hastings (FL) McIntyre Scott, David
Hastings (WA) McKeon Serrano
Heck (WA) McNeerney Sewell (AL)
Higgins Meeks Shea-Porter
Himes Meng Sherman
Hinojosa Michaud Simpson
Holt Miller (FL) Sires
Honda Miller, George Slaughter
Horsford Moore Smith (NJ)
Huffman Murphy (FL) Smith (WA)
Israel Nadler Speier
Jackson Lee Napolitano Stewart
Jeffries Neal Swalwell (CA)
Johnson (GA) Negrete McLeod Takano
Johnson, E. B. Noem Thompson (CA)
Jolly Nolan Thompson (MS)
Joyce Nunes Thompson (PA)
Kaptur O'Rourke Tiberi
Keating Owens Tierney
Kelly (IL) Pallone Titus
Kennedy Pascrell Tonko
Kildee Pastor (AZ) Tsongas
Kilmer Payne Turner
Kind Pelosi Valadao
King (NY) Perlmutter Van Hollen
Kinzinger (IL) Peters (CA) Vargas
Kirkpatrick Peters (MI) Veasey
Kline Peterson Vela
Kuster Pingree (ME) Velázquez
Langevin Pocan Visclosky
Larsen (WA) Polis Walz
Larson (CT) Price (NC) Wasserman
Latham Quigley Rahall Schultz
Lee (CA) Rahall Waters
Levin Reichert Waxman
Lewis Richmond Welch
Lipinski Roby Wilson (FL)
LoBiondo Rogers (KY) Wolf
Loeb sack Rogers (MI) Womack
Lofgren Rooney Yarmuth
Lowenthal Ros-Lehtinen Roybal-Allard
Lowe y Scott, Austin Young (AK)
Lucas Ruiz Scott, David Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—10

Collins (GA) McGovern Rangel
Davis, Danny Miller, Gary Ryan (OH)
Hoyer Moran
LaMalfa Nunnelee

□ 1830

Messrs. CLEAVER, HALL, BACHUS, and HINOJOSA changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. KING of Iowa and REED changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROWN OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. WOODALL). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROWN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 130, noes 290, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 301]

AYES—130

Amash Gosar Pearce
Amodei Gowdy Perry
Bachmann Petri
Barr Graves (MO) Pittenger
Barton Griffith (VA) Pitts
Bentivolio Harris Polis
Bilirakis Heck (NV) Pompeo
Bishop (UT) Hensarling Price (GA)
Black Herrera Beutler Ribble
Blackburn Holding Rice (SC)
Boustany Hudson Roe (TN)
Bridenstine Huizenga (MI) Rohrabacher
Brooks (AL) Hultgren Rokita
Broun (GA) Hunter Roskam
Buchanan Hurt Ross
Burgess Issa Rothfus
Byrne Johnson (OH) Royce
Campbell Johnson, Sam Ryan (WI)
Cantor Jones Salmon
Cassidy Jordan Sanford
Chabot Kingston Scalise
Chaffetz Kline Schweikert
Coble Labrador Senenbrenner
Coffman Lamborn Sessions
Cook Lance Smith (MO)
Crenshaw Smith (NE)
Densantis Long Smith (TX)
DesJarlais Lummis Southerland
Duffy Massie Stewart
Duncan (SC) McCarthy (CA) Stockman
Duncan (TN) McCaul Stutzman
Elmers McClintock Thornberry
Fincher McHenry Tipton
Fitzpatrick McMorris Upton
Fleischmann Rodgers Walberg
Fleming Meadows Webster (FL)
Forbes Messer Wenstrup
Foxy Mica Westmoreland
Franks (AZ) Miller (FL) Williams
Garrett Miller (MI) Wilson (SC)
Gibbs Mulvaney Wittman
Gingrey (GA) Nugent Woodall
Gohmert Palazzo Yoho
Goodlatte Paulsen

NOES—290

Connolly Garcia
Conyers Gardner
Cooper Gerlach
Costa Gibson
Cotton Granger
Courtney Grayson
Cramer Green, Al
Crawford Green, Gene
Crowley Griffin (AR)
Cuellar Grimm
Culberson Guthrie
Cummings Gutiérrez
Daines Hahn
Davis (CA) Hall
Davis, Rodney Hanabusa
DeFazio Hanna
DeGette Harper
Delaney Hartzler
DeLauro Hastings (FL)
DelBene Hastings (WA)
Denham Heck (WA)
Dent Higgins
Deutch Himes
Diaz-Balart Hinojosa
Dingell Holt
Doggett Honda
Doyle Horsford
Duckworth Huelskamp
Edwards Huffman
Ellison Israel
Engel Jackson Lee
Enyart Jeffries
Eshoo Jenkins
Esty Johnson (GA)
Farenthold Johnson, E. B.
Farr Jolly
Fattah Joyce
Flores Kaptur
Fortenberry Keating
Foster Kelly (IL)
Frankel (FL) Kelly (PA)
Frelinghuysen Kennedy
Fudge Kildee
Gabbard Kilmer
Gallego Kind
Garamendi King (IA)

Negrete McLeod Serrano
Neugebauer Sewell (AL)
Noem Shea-Porter
Nolan Sherman
Nunes Shimkus
O'Rourke Shuster
Olson Simpson
Owens Sinema
Pallone Sires
Pascrell Slaughter
Pastor (AZ) Smith (NJ)
Payne Smith (WA)
Pelosi Speier
Perlmutter Stivers
Peters (CA) Swalwell (CA)
Peters (MI) Takano
Peterson Terry
Pingree (ME) Thompson (CA)
Pocan Pocan Thompson (MS)
Poe (TX) Thompson (PA)
Posey Tiberi
Price (NC) Tierney
Quigley Titus
Rahall Tonko
Reed Tsongas
Reichert Renacci
Maffei Richmond
Maloney, Carolyn Rigell
Maloney, Sean Roby
Marchant Rogers (AL)
Marino Rogers (KY)
Matheson Rogers (MI)
Matsui Rooney
McAllister Ros-Lehtinen
McCarthy (NY) Roybal-Allard
McCollum Ruiz
McDermott Runyan
McIntyre Ruppertsberger
McKeon Rush
McKinley Sánchez, Linda
McNeerney T.
Meehan Sanchez, Loretta
Meeks Sarbanes
Meng Schakowsky
Michaud Schiff
Miller, George Schneider
Moore Schock
Mullin Schuler
Murphy (FL) Schrader
Murphy (PA) Schwartz
Nadler Scott (VA)
Napolitano Scott, Austin
Neal Scott, David

NOT VOTING—11

Collins (GA) LaMalfa Nunnelee
Davis, Danny McGovern Rangel
Grijalva Miller, Gary Ryan (OH)
Hoyer Moran

□ 1835

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. ROYCE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 223, noes 198, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 302]

AYES—223

Amodei Barton Becerra
Bachmann Bass Bentivolio
Bachus Beatty Bilirakis

Bishop (NY)	Hall	Price (GA)	Hanabusa	Maloney, Sean	Roe (TN)	Blumenauer	Higgins	Pastor (AZ)
Bishop (UT)	Hanna	Price (NC)	Harris	Marchant	Rogers (AL)	Bonamici	Holt	Payne
Black	Harper	Quigley	Hartzler	Massie	Rogers (KY)	Brady (PA)	Honda	Pelosi
Blackburn	Hastings (WA)	Reichert	Hastings (FL)	Matheson	Rooney	Brown (FL)	Horsford	Perry
Blumenauer	Heck (WA)	Ribble	Heck (NV)	McAllister	Ross	Burgess	Huffman	Peters (CA)
Bonamici	Hensarling	Rice (SC)	Herrera Beutler	McCaul	Rothfus	Capps	Israel	Peters (MI)
Brady (PA)	Himes	Richmond	Higgins	McClintock	Runyan	Capuano	Jackson Lee	Petri
Bridenstine	Holding	Rogers (MI)	Hinojosa	McDermott	Sanchez, Loretta	Cárdenas	Jeffries	Pocan
Brooks (IN)	Holt	Rohrabacher	Huelskamp	McIntyre	Scalise	Carney	Johnson (GA)	Polis
Burgess	Honda	Rokita	Huffman	McKeon	Schrader	Carson (IN)	Johnson, E. B.	Quigley
Butterfield	Horsford	Ros-Lehtinen	Huizenga (MI)	McKinley	Scott, Austin	Cartwright	Jolly	Richmond
Cantor	Hoyer	Roskam	Hunter	McMorris	Scott, David	Castor (FL)	Jones	Rohrabacher
Capps	Hudson	Roybal-Allard	Hurt	Rodgers	Shimkus	Castro (TX)	Jordan	Ruiz
Capuano	Hultgren	Royce	Israel	McNerney	Shuster	Chu	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Cartwright	Issa	Ruiz	Jenkins	Meehan	Simpson	Cicilline	Kelly (IL)	Rush
Cassidy	Jackson Lee	Ruppersberger	Johnson (GA)	Mica	Smith (MO)	Clark (MA)	Kennedy	Sánchez, Linda
Castro (TX)	Jeffries	Rush	Johnson, Sam	Michaud	Smith (NE)	Clarke (NY)	Kildee	T.
Chabot	Johnson (OH)	Ryan (WI)	Jones	Miller (MI)	Smith (TX)	Clay	Kilmer	Sanchez, Loretta
Chaffetz	Johnson, E. B.	Salmon	Joyce	Miller, George	Southerland	Cleaver	King (NY)	Sarbanes
Chu	Jolly	Sánchez, Linda	Kaptur	Mullin	Speier	Cohen	Kirkpatrick	Schakowsky
Cicilline	Jordan	T.	Keating	Murphy (FL)	Stivers	Connolly	Langevin	Schiff
Clark (MA)	Kelly (IL)	Sanford	Kelly (PA)	Murphy (PA)	Swalwell (CA)	Conyers	Lee (CA)	Schneider
Clay	Kennedy	Sarbanes	Kildee	Neal	Thompson (PA)	Cooper	Levin	Schwartz
Clyburn	Kirkpatrick	Schakowsky	Kilmer	Negrete McLeod	Thornberry	Crowley	Lipinski	Sensenbrenner
Coffman	Kuster	Schiff	Kind	Neugebauer	Turner	Cummings	LoBiondo	Serrano
Cohen	Lamborn	Schneider	King (IA)	Noem	Upton	Davis (CA)	Lofgren	Sewell (AL)
Cole	Lance	Schock	King (NY)	Nugent	Valadao	Davis, Danny	Lowenthal	Sherman
Conyers	Langevin	Schwartz	Kingston	Nunes	Vela	DeFazio	Lowe	Sinema
Cooper	Larson (CT)	Schweikert	Kinzinger (IL)	Olson	Wagner	DeGette	Luján, Ben Ray	Sires
Courtney	Lee (CA)	Scott (VA)	Kline	Owens	Walz	Deutch	(NM)	Smith (TX)
Cramer	Levin	Sensenbrenner	Labrador	Palazzo	Waters	Dingell	Lynch	Smith (WA)
Crenshaw	Lewis	Serrano	Lankford	Pearce	Webster (FL)	Doggett	Maffei	Speier
Crowley	Lipinski	Sessions	Larsen (WA)	Perlmutter	Westmoreland	Doyle	Maloney,	Stockman
Cuellar	Lofgren	Sewell (AL)	Latham	Peters (MI)	Whitfield	Duckworth	Carolyn	Swalwell (CA)
Cummings	Lowey	Shea-Porter	Latta	Peterson	Wittman	Edwards	Maloney, Sean	Takano
Davis (CA)	Lujan Grisham	Sherman	LoBiondo	Poe (TX)	Womack	Ellison	Matsui	Thompson (CA)
DeFazio	(NM)	Sinema	Loeb sack	Pompeo	Woodall	Eshoo	McCarthy (NY)	Tierney
DeGette	Luján, Ben Ray	Sires	Long	Posey	Yoder	Fattah	McNerney	Titus
Delaney	(NM)	Slaughter	Lowenthal	Rahall	Yoho	Foster	Meeks	Tonko
DeLauro	Lynch	Smith (NJ)	Lucas	Reed	Young (AK)	Frankel (FL)	Meng	Van Hollen
Dent	Maloney,	Smith (WA)	Luetkemeyer	Renacci		Garamendi	Miller, George	Vargas
DeSantis	Carolyn	Stewart	Lummis	Rigell		Gibson	Moran	Veasey
Deutch	Marino	Stockman	Maffei	Roby		Grayson	Murphy (FL)	Velázquez
Diaz-Balart	Matsui	Stutzman				Green, Al	Nadler	Wasserman
Dingell	McCarthy (CA)	Takano				Green, Gene	Napolitano	Neal
Doggett	McCarthy (NY)	Terry				Grijalva	Neale	Schultz
Doyle	McCollum	Thompson (CA)				Grimm	Negrete McLeod	Waters
Duckworth	McHenry	Thompson (MS)				Hahn	O'Rourke	Waxman
Duffy	Meadows	Tiberi				Hanabusa	Pallone	Wilson (FL)
Duncan (SC)	Meeks	Tierney				Heck (WA)	Pascrell	
Duncan (TN)	Meng	Tipton						
Edwards	Messer	Titus						
Ellison	Miller (FL)	Tonko						
Engel	Moore	Tsongas						
Eshoo	Mulvaney	Van Hollen						
Esty	Nadler	Vargas						
Farr	Napolitano	Veasey						
Fattah	Nolan	Velázquez						
Fleischmann	O'Rourke	Visclosky						
Fortenberry	Pallone	Walberg						
Foster	Pascrell	Walden						
Fox	Pastor (AZ)	Walorski						
Garrett	Paulsen	Wasserman						
Gibbs	Payne	Schultz						
Gingrey (GA)	Pelosi	Waxman						
Gohmert	Perry	Welch						
Gosar	Peters (CA)	Wenstrup						
Gowdy	Petri	Williams						
Grayson	Pingree (ME)	Wilson (FL)						
Green, Al	Pittenger	Wilson (SC)						
Green, Gene	Pitts	Wolf						
Grijalva	Pocan	Yarmuth						
Gutiérrez	Polis	Young (IN)						

NOES—198

Aderholt	Carney	Fitzpatrick
Amash	Carson (IN)	Fleming
Barber	Carter	Flores
Barletta	Castor (FL)	Forbes
Barr	Clarke (NY)	Frankel (FL)
Barrow (GA)	Cleaver	Franks (AZ)
Benishek	Coble	Frelinghuysen
Bera (CA)	Collins (NY)	Fudge
Bishop (GA)	Conaway	Gabbard
Boustany	Connolly	Gallego
Brady (TX)	Cook	Garamendi
Brooks (AL)	Costa	Garcia
Brown (GA)	Cotton	Gardner
Brown (FL)	Crawford	Gerlach
Brownley (CA)	Culbertson	Gibson
Buchanan	Daines	Goodlatte
Bucshon	Davis, Rodney	Granger
Bustos	DelBene	Graves (GA)
Byrne	Denham	Graves (MO)
Calvert	DesJarlais	Griffin (AR)
Camp	Ellmers	Griffith (VA)
Campbell	Enyart	Grimm
Capito	Farenthold	Guthrie
Cárdenas	Fincher	Hahn

NOT VOTING—10

Braley (IA)	McGovern	Rangel
Collins (GA)	Miller, Gary	Ryan (OH)
Davis, Danny	Moran	
LaMalfa	Nunnelee	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1839

Messrs. POMPEO and WESTMORELAND changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Mr. CROWLEY changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GRAYSON

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GRAYSON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 150, noes 272, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 303]

AYES—150

Barrow (GA)	Beatty	Bera (CA)
Bass	Becerra	Bilirakis

NOES—272

Aderholt	Cramer	Granger
Amash	Crawford	Graves (GA)
Amodei	Crenshaw	Graves (MO)
Bachmann	Cuellar	Griffin (AR)
Barber	Culbertson	Griffith (VA)
Barletta	Daines	Guthrie
Barr	Davis, Rodney	Hall
Barton	Delaney	Hanna
Benishek	DeLauro	Harper
Bentivolio	DelBene	Harris
Bishop (GA)	Denham	Hartzler
Bishop (NY)	Dent	Hastings (FL)
Bishop (UT)	DeSantis	Hastings (WA)
Black	DesJarlais	Heck (NV)
Blackburn	Diaz-Balart	Hensarling
Boustany	Duffy	Herrera Beutler
Brady (TX)	Duncan (SC)	Himes
Braley (IA)	Duncan (TN)	Hinojosa
Bridenstine	Ellmers	Holding
Brooks (AL)	Engel	Hoyer
Brooks (IN)	Enyart	Hudson
Brown (GA)	Esty	Huelskamp
Brownley (CA)	Farenthold	Huizenga (MI)
Buchanan	Farr	Hultgren
Bucshon	Fincher	Hunter
Bustos	Fitzpatrick	Hurt
Butterfield	Fleischmann	Issa
Byrne	Fleming	Jenkins
Calvert	Flores	Johnson (OH)
Camp	Forbes	Johnson, Sam
Campbell	Fortenberry	Joyce
Cantor	Fox	Keating
Capito	Franks (AZ)	Kelly (PA)
Carter	Frelinghuysen	Kind
Cassidy	Fudge	King (IA)
Chabot	Gabbard	Kingston
Chaffetz	Gallego	Kinzinger (IL)
Clyburn	Garcia	Kline
Coble	Gardner	Kuster
Coffman	Garrett	Labrador
Cole	Gerlach	Lamborn
Collins (NY)	Gibbs	Lance
Conaway	Gingrey (GA)	Lankford
Cook	Gohmert	Larsen (WA)
Costa	Goodlatte	Larson (CT)
Cotton	Gosar	Latham
Courtney	Gowdy	Latta

Lewis	Perlmutter	Simpson	Coffman	Jeffries	Pingree (ME)	McIntyre	Reichert	Southerland
Loeb sack	Peterson	Slaughter	Cohen	Johnson (GA)	Pocan	McKeon	Renacci	Stewart
Long	Pingree (ME)	Smith (MO)	Conyers	Johnson, E. B.	Polis	McKinley	Ribble	Stivers
Lucas	Pittenger	Smith (NE)	Cooper	Kaptur	Quigley	McMorris	Rice (SC)	Stockman
Luetkemeyer	Pitts	Smith (NJ)	Costa	Kennedy	Reed	Rodgers	Rigell	Stutzman
Lujan Grisham	Poe (TX)	Southerland	Crowley	Kildee	Richmond	Meadows	Roby	Terry
(NM)	Pompeo	Stewart	Cummings	Kilmer	Rohrabacher	Meehan	Roe (TN)	Thompson (MS)
Lummis	Posey	Stivers	Davis (CA)	Langevin	Rooney	Messer	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (PA)
Marchant	Price (GA)	Stutzman	DeFazio	Lee (CA)	Royce	Mica	Rogers (KY)	Thornberry
Marino	Price (NC)	Terry	DeGette	Levin	Ruppersberger	Miller (FL)	Rogers (MI)	Tiberi
Massie	Rahall	Thompson (MS)	Deutch	Lofgren	Rush	Miller (MI)	Rokita	Tsongas
Matheson	Reed	Thompson (PA)	Dingell	Lowenthal	Sánchez, Linda	Moore	Ros-Lehtinen	Turner
McAllister	Reichert	Thornberry	Doggett	Lowe	T.	Mullin	Roskam	Upton
McCarthy (CA)	Renacci	Tiberi	Doyle	Lujan Grisham	Sanchez, Loretta	Mulvaney	Ross	Valadao
McCaul	Ribble	Tipton	Duckworth	(NM)	Sanford	Murphy (PA)	Rothfus	Vela
McClintock	Rice (SC)	Tsiongas	Edwards	Luján, Ben Ray	Sarbanes	Neugebauer	Roybal-Allard	Visclosky
McCollum	Rigell	Turner	Ellison	(NM)	Schakowsky	Noem	Ruiz	Wagner
McDermott	Roby	Upton	Eshoo	Lynch	Schiff	Nolan	Runyan	Walberg
McHenry	Roe (TN)	Valadao	Fattah	Maffei	Schneider	Nugent	Ryan (WI)	Walden
McIntyre	Rogers (AL)	Vela	Fitzpatrick	Maloney,	Schwartz	Nunes	Salmon	Walorski
McKeon	Rogers (KY)	Visclosky	Foster	Carolyn	Serrano	O'Rourke	Scalise	Walz
McKinley	Rogers (MI)	Wagner	Frankel (FL)	Maloney, Sean	Sherman	Olson	Schock	Weber (TX)
McMorris	Rokita	Walberg	Garamendi	Matsui	Sinema	Owens	Schrader	Webster (FL)
Rodgers	Rooney	Walden	Gardner	McCarthy (NY)	Sires	Palazzo	Schweikert	Westmoreland
Meadows	Ros-Lehtinen	Walorski	Gibson	McClintock	Smith (WA)	Pastor (AZ)	Scott (VA)	Westmorum
Meehan	Roskam	Walz	Grayson	McDermott	Speier	Paulsen	Scott, Austin	Whitfield
Messer	Ross	Weber (TX)	Green, Al	McNerney	Swallow (CA)	Payne	Scott, David	Williams
Mica	Rothfus	Webster (FL)	Grijalva	Meeks	Takano	Pearce	Sensenbrenner	Wilson (SC)
Michaud	Roybal-Allard	Welch	Gutiérrez	Meng	Thompson (CA)	Perry	Sessions	Wittman
Miller (FL)	Royce	Westmoreland	Hahn	Michaud	Tierney	Peterson	Sewell (AL)	Wolf
Miller (MI)	Runyan	Hanna	Hanabusa	Miller, George	Tipton	Petri	Shea-Porter	Womack
Moore	Ryan (WI)	Hastings (FL)	Hanna	Moran	Titus	Pittenger	Shimkus	Woodall
Mullin	Salmon	Heck (NV)	Hastings (FL)	Murphy (FL)	Tonko	Pitts	Shuster	Yarmuth
Mulvaney	Sanford	Heck (WA)	Heck (WA)	Nader	Van Hollen	Poe (TX)	Simpson	Yoder
Murphy (PA)	Scalise	Hinojosa	Wilson (SC)	Napolitano	Vargas	Pompeo	Slaughter	Yoho
Neugebauer	Schock	Holt	Wittman	Neal	Veasey	Posey	Smith (MO)	Young (AK)
Noem	Schrader	Honda	Wolf	Negrete McLeod	Velázquez	Price (GA)	Smith (NE)	Young (IN)
Nolan	Schweikert	Horsford	Womack	Pallone	Wasserman	Price (NC)	Smith (NJ)	
Nugent	Scott (VA)	Hudson	Woodall	Pascarell	Schultz	Rahall	Smith (TX)	
Nunes	Scott, Austin	Huffman	Yarmuth	Pelosi	Waters	Collins (GA)	Miller, Gary	Ryan (OH)
Olson	Scott, David	Hunter	Yoder	Perlmutter	Waxman	LaMalfa	Nunnelee	
Owens	Sessions	Jackson Lee	Young (AK)	Peters (CA)	Welch	McGovern	Rangel	
Palazzo	Shea-Porter		Young (IN)	Peters (MI)	Wilson (FL)			
Paulsen	Shimkus							
Pearce	Shuster							

NOT VOTING—9

Bachus	LaMalfa	Nunnelee
Collins (GA)	McGovern	Rangel
Gutiérrez	Miller, Gary	Ryan (OH)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1843

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARAMENDI

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 148, noes 276, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 304]

AYES—148

Amodi	Brady (PA)	Cassidy
Barber	Brown (FL)	Castor (FL)
Bass	Brownley (CA)	Castro (TX)
Beatty	Capps	Chu
Becerra	Capuano	Cicilline
Bera (CA)	Carney	Clark (MA)
Blumenauer	Carson (IN)	Clay
Bonamici	Cartwright	Cleaver

Aderholt	Davis, Danny	Herrera Beutler
Amash	Davis, Rodney	Higgins
Bachmann	Delaney	Himes
Bachus	DeLauro	Holding
Barletta	DelBene	Hoyer
Barr	Denham	Huelskamp
Barrow (GA)	Dent	Huizenga (MI)
Barton	DeSantis	Hultgren
Benish	DesJarlais	Hurt
Bentivolio	Diaz-Balart	Israel
Bilirakis	Duffy	Issa
Bishop (GA)	Duncan (SC)	Jenkins
Bishop (NY)	Duncan (TN)	Johnson (OH)
Bishop (UT)	Ellmers	Johnson, Sam
Black	Engel	Jolly
Blackburn	Enyart	Jones
Boustany	Esty	Jordan
Brady (TX)	Farenthold	Joyce
Braley (IA)	Farr	Keating
Bridenstine	Fincher	Kelly (IL)
Brooks (AL)	Fleischmann	Kelly (PA)
Brooks (IN)	Fleming	Kind
Brown (GA)	Flores	King (IA)
Buchanan	Forbes	King (NY)
Bucshon	Fortenberry	Kingston
Burgess	Fox	Kinzing (IL)
Bustos	Franks (AZ)	Kirkpatrick
Butterfield	Frelinghuysen	Kline
Byrne	Fudge	Kuster
Calvert	Gabbard	Labrador
Camp	Galleo	Lamborn
Campbell	Garcia	Lance
Cantor	Garrett	Lankford
Capito	Gerlach	Larsen (WA)
Cardenas	Gibbs	Larson (CT)
Carter	Gingrey (GA)	Latham
Chabot	Gohmert	Latta
Chaffetz	Goodlatte	Lewis
Clarke (NY)	Gosar	Lipinski
Clyburn	Gowdy	LoBiondo
Coble	Granger	Loeb sack
Cole	Graves (GA)	Long
Collins (NY)	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Conaway	Green, Gene	Luetkemeyer
Connolly	Griffin (AR)	Lummis
Cook	Griffith (VA)	Marchant
Cotton	Grimm	Marino
Courtney	Guthrie	Massie
Cramer	Hall	Matheson
Crawford	Harper	McAllister
Crenshaw	Harris	McCarthy (CA)
Cuellar	Hartzer	McCaul
Culberson	Hastings (WA)	McCollum
Daines	Hensarling	McHenry

NOES—276

Herrera Beutler	McIntyre	Reichert	Southerland
Higgins	McKeon	Renacci	Stewart
Himes	McKinley	Ribble	Stivers
Holding	McMorris	Rice (SC)	Stockman
Hoyer	Rodgers	Rigell	Stutzman
Huelskamp	Meadows	Roby	Terry
Huizenga (MI)	Meehan	Roe (TN)	Thompson (MS)
Hultgren	Messer	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (PA)
Hurt	Mica	Rogers (KY)	Thornberry
Israel	Miller (FL)	Rogers (MI)	Tiberi
Issa	Miller (MI)	Rokita	Tsongas
Jenkins	Moore	Ros-Lehtinen	Turner
Johnson (OH)	Mullin	Roskam	Upton
Johnson, Sam	Mulvaney	Ross	Valadao
Jolly	Murphy (PA)	Rothfus	Vela
Jones	Neugebauer	Roybal-Allard	Visclosky
Jordan	Noem	Ruiz	Wagner
Joyce	Nolan	Runyan	Walberg
Keating	Nugent	Ryan (WI)	Walden
Kelly (IL)	Nunes	Salmon	Walorski
Kelly (PA)	O'Rourke	Scalise	Walz
Kind	Olson	Schock	Weber (TX)
King (IA)	Owens	Schrader	Webster (FL)
King (NY)	Palazzo	Schweikert	Westmoreland
Kingston	Pastor (AZ)	Scott (VA)	Whitfield
Kinzing (IL)	Paulsen	Scott, Austin	Williams
Kirkpatrick	Payne	Scott, David	Wittman
Kline	Pearce	Sensenbrenner	Wolf
Kuster	Perry	Sessions	Womack
Labrador	Peterson	Sewell (AL)	Woodall
Lamborn	Petri	Shea-Porter	Yarmuth
Lance	Pittenger	Shimkus	Yoder
Lankford	Pitts	Shuster	Yoho
Larsen (WA)	Poe (TX)	Simpson	Young (AK)
Larson (CT)	Pompeo	Slaughter	Young (IN)
Latham	Posey	Smith (MO)	
Latta	Price (GA)	Smith (NE)	
Lewis	Price (NC)	Smith (NJ)	
Lipinski	Rahall	Smith (TX)	
LoBiondo			
Loeb sack			
Long			
Lucas			
Luetkemeyer			
Lummis			
Marchant			
Marino			
Massie			
Matheson			
McAllister			
McCarthy (CA)			
McCaul			
McCollum			
McHenry			

NOT VOTING—7

Collins (GA)	Miller, Gary	Ryan (OH)
LaMalfa	Nunnelee	
McGovern	Rangel	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1847

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DUNCAN OF TENNESSEE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 119, noes 303, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 305]

AYES—119

Amash	Broun (GA)	Culberson
Bachmann	Buchanan	DeSantis
Barr	Bucshon	DesJarlais
Barton	Burgess	Duncan (SC)
Bentivolio	Byrne	Duncan (TN)
Bilirakis	Chabot	Fleischmann
Bishop (UT)	Chaffetz	Fleming
Black	Coble	Forbes
Blackburn	Coffman	Fox
Boustany	Conyers	Franks (AZ)
Brady (TX)	Cotton	Garrett
Brooks (AL)	Crenshaw	Gibbs

Gingrey (GA)	Lummis	Rokita	Owens	Rush	Thornberry	Mulvaney	Royce	Stockman
Gohmert	Massie	Roskam	Pallone	Sánchez, Linda	Tiberi	Palazzo	Salmon	Stutzman
Gowdy	McCarthy (CA)	Rothfus	Pascrell	T.	Tierney	Price (GA)	Sanford	Williams
Graves (GA)	McClintock	Royce	Pastor (AZ)	Sanchez, Loretta	Tipton	Rice (SC)	Scalise	Wilson (SC)
Griffith (VA)	McHenry	Ryan (WI)	Payne	Sarbanes	Titus	Rohrabacher	Schweikert	Woodall
Guthrie	McIntyre	Salmon	Pearce	Schakowsky	Tonko	Rokita	Stewart	
Hanna	McMorris	Sanford	Pelosi	Schiff	Tsongas			
Harper	Rodgers	Scalise	Perlmutter	Schneider	Turner			
Heck (NV)	Meadows	Schweikert	Peters (CA)	Schock	Upton	Aderholt	Ellmers	Lewis
Henrsaringl	Messer	Sensenbrenner	Peters (MI)	Schrader	Valadao	Amodei	Engel	Lipinski
Holding	Mica	Sessions	Peterson	Schwartz	Van Hollen	Bachmann	Enyart	LoBiondo
Hudson	Miller (FL)	Shuster	Pingree (ME)	Scott (VA)	Vargas	Bachus	Eshoo	Loeb sack
Huelskamp	Miller (MI)	Smith (TX)	Pitts	Scott, Austin	Veasey	Barber	Esty	Lofgren
Huizenga (MI)	Mulvaney	Southerland	Pocan	Scott, David	Vela	Barletta	Farenthold	Lowenthal
Hultgren	Murphy (PA)	Stewart	Pols	Serrano	Velázquez	Barrow (GA)	Farr	Lowe y
Hurt	Palazzo	Stockman	Posey	Sewell (AL)	Visclosky	Barton	Fattah	Lucas
Issa	Paulsen	Stutzman	Price (NC)	Shea-Porter	Wagner	Bass	Fincher	Luetkemeyer
Johnson (OH)	Perry	Terry	Quigley	Sherman	Wal den	Beatty	Fitzpatrick	Lujan Grisham
Johnson, Sam	Petri	Walberg	Rahal l	Shimkus	Walz	Becerra	Flores	(NM)
Jones	Pittenger	Walorski	Reed	Simpson	Water man	Benishek	Forbes	Luján, Ben Ray
Jordan	Poe (TX)	We nstrup	Renacci	Sinema	Schutz	Bera (CA)	Forten berry	(NM)
Kingston	Pompeo	Westmore land	Richmond	Sires	Wat ers	Bilirakis	Foster	Lummis
Kline	Price (GA)	William s	Rigell	Slaughter	Wa xman	Bishop (GA)	Frankel (FL)	Lynch
Labrador	Reichert	Wilson (SC)	Roby	Smith (MO)	Weber (TX)	Bishop (NY)	Frelinghuysen	Maffei
Lamborn	Ribble	Wittman	Rogers (AL)	Smith (NE)	Webster (FL)	Blumenauer	Fudge	Maloney,
Lance	Rice (SC)	Woodall	Rogers (KY)	Smith (NJ)	Welch	Bonomici	Gabbard	Carolyn
Lankford	Roe (TN)	Yoho	Rogers (MI)	Smith (WA)	Whitefield	Boustany	Gallego	Maloney, Sean
Long	Rohrabacher	Young (IN)	Rooney	Speir	Wil son (FL)	Brady (PA)	Garamendi	Marchant
			Ros-Lehtinen	Stivers	Wolf	Braley (IA)	Garcia	Marino
			Ross	Swallow (CA)	Womack	Bridenstine	Gardner	Matheson
			Roybal-Allard	Takano	Yarmuth	Brooks (AL)	Gerlach	Matsui
			Ruiz	Thompson (CA)	Yoder	Brooks (IN)	Gibbs	McAlister
			Runyan	Thompson (MS)	Young (AK)	Brown (FL)	Gibson	McCarthy (NY)
			Ruppersberger	Thompson (PA)		Buchanan	Gingrey (GA)	McCaul
						Bucshan	Goodlatte	McColum
			Cole	LaMalfa	Nunnelee	Bustos	Gosar	McDermott
			Collins (GA)	McGovern	Rangel	Butterfield	Granger	McIntyre
			Johnson (GA)	Miller, Gary	Ryan (OH)	Calvert	Graves (MO)	McKeon
						Camp	Grayson	McKinley
						Campbell	Green, Al	McMorris
						Cantor	Green, Gene	Rodgers
						Capito	Griffin (AR)	McNerney
						Capps	Griffith (VA)	Meehan
						Capuano	Grijalva	Meeks
						Cárdenas	Grimm	Meng
						Carney	Guthrie	Mica
						Carlson (IN)	Gutiérrez	Michaud
						Carter	Hahn	Miller (MI)
						Cartwright	Hall	Miller, George
						Cassidy	Hanabusa	Moore
						Castor (FL)	Hanna	Moran
						Castro (TX)	Harper	Mullin
						Chu	Harris	Murphy (FL)
						Cicilline	Hartzel	Murphy (PA)
						Clark (MA)	Hastings (WA)	Nadler
						Clarke (NY)	Heck (NV)	Napolitano
						Clay	Heck (WA)	Neal
						Cleaver	Herrera Beutlier	Negrete McLeod
						Clyburn	Higgins	Neugebauer
						Coble	Himes	Noem
						Coffman	Hinojosa	Nolan
						Cohen	Holt	Nugent
						Cole	Honda	Nunes
						Collins (NY)	Horsford	O'Rourke
						Conaway	Hoyer	Olson
						Connolly	Huelskamp	Owens
						Conyers	Huffman	Pallone
						Cook	Hunter	Pascrell
						Cooper	Israel	Pastor (AZ)
						Costa	Jackson Lee	Paulsen
						Cotton	Jeffries	Payne
						Courtney	Jenkins	Pearce
						Cramer	Johnson (GA)	Pelosi
						Crawford	Johnson, E. B.	Perlmutter
						Crenshaw	Jolly	Perry
						Crowley	Jones	Peters (CA)
						Cuellar	Joyce	Peters (MI)
						Culberson	Keating	Peterson
						Cummings	Kelly (IL)	Petri
						Daines	Kelly (PA)	Pingree (ME)
						Davis (CA)	Kennedy	Pittenger
						Davis, Danny	Kilmer	Pitts
						Davis, Rodney	Kind	Pocan
						DeGette	King (IA)	Poe (TX)
						Delaney	King (NY)	Polis
						DeLauro	Kingston	Pompeo
						DelBene	Kinzinger (IL)	Posey
						Denham	Kirkpatrick	Price (NC)
						Dent	Kline	Quigley
						DesJarlais	Kuster	Rahall
						Deutch	Lance	Reichert
						Diaz-Balart	Long	Renacci
						Dingell	Massie	Ribble
						Doggett	McCarthy (CA)	Richmond
						Doyle	McClintock	Rigell
						Duckworth	McHenry	Roby
						Duffy	Meadows	Roe (TN)
						Edwards	Messer	Rogers (AL)
							Miller (FL)	

NOES—303

Aderholt

Amodei

Bachus

Barber

Barletta

Barrow (GA)

Bass

Beatty

Becerra

Benishek

Bera (CA)

Bishop (GA)

Bishop (NY)

Blumenauer

Bonomici

Brady (PA)

Braley (IA)

Bridenstine

Brooks (IN)

Brown (FL)

Brownley (CA)

Bustos

Butterfield

Calvert

Camp

Campbell

Cantor

Capito

Capps

Capuano

Cárdenas

Carney

Carson (IN)

Carter

Cartwright

Cassidy

Castor (FL)

Castro (TX)

Chu

Cicilline

Clark (MA)

Clarke (NY)

Clay

Cleaver

Clyburn

Cohen

Collins (NY)

Conaway

Connolly

Cook

Cooper

Costa

Courtney

Cramer

Crawford

Crowley

Cuellar

Cummings

Daines

Davis (CA)

Davis, Danny

Davis, Rodney

DeFazio

DeGette

Delaney

DeLauro

DelBene

Denham

Dent

Deutch

Diaz-Balart

Dingell

Doggett

Doyle

Duckworth

Edwards

Ellmers

Engel

Enyart

Eshoo

Esty

Farenthold

Farr

Fattah

Fincher

Fitzpatrick

Flores

Fortenberry

Foster

Frankel (FL)

Frelinghuysen

Fudge

Gabbard

Garcia

Gardner

Gerlach

Gibbs

Gibson

Goodlatte

Gosar

Granger

Graves (MO)

Grayson

Green, Al

Green, Gene

Griffin (AR)

Grijalva

Grimm

Gutiérrez

Hahn

Hall

Hanabusa

Harris

Hartzler

Hastings (FL)

Hastings (WA)

Heck (WA)

Herrera Beutler

Higgins

Himes

Hinojosa

Holt

Honda

Horsford

Hoyer

Huelskamp

Huffman

Hunter

Israel

Jackson Lee

Jeffries

Jenkins

Johnson (GA)

Johnson, E. B.

Jolly

Jones

Joyce

Keating

Kelly (IL)

Kelly (PA)

Kennedy

Kildee

Kilmer

Kind

King (IA)

King (NY)

Kingston

Kinzinger (IL)

Kirkpatrick

Kline

Kuster

Lance

Langevin

Lankford

Larson (CT)

Latham

Latta

Lee (CA)

Levin

Keating

Kelly (IL)

Kelly (PA)

Kennedy

Kildee

Kilmer

Kind

Kinzing (IL)

Kirkpatrick

Kuster

Langevin

Larsen (WA)

Larson (CT)

Latham

Latta

Lee (CA)

Levin

Lewis

Lipinski

LoBiondo

Loeb sack

Lofgren

Lowenthal

Lowe y

Lucas

Luetkemeyer

Lujan Grisham

(NM)

Luján, Ben Ray

(NM)

Lynch

Maffei

Maloney,

Carolyn

Maloney, Sean

Marchant

Marino

Matheson

Matsui

McAllister

McCarthy (NY)

McCaul

McColum

McDermott

McKeon

McKinley

McNerney

Meehan

Meeks

Meng

Michaud

Miller, George

Moore

Moran

Mullin

Murphy (FL)

Murphy (PA)

Nadler

Napolitano

Neal

Negrete McLeod

Neugebauer

Noem

Nolan

Nugent

Nunes

O'Rourke

Olson

NOT VOTING—9

LaMalfa

McGovern

Miller, Gary

Nunnelee

Rangel

Ryan (OH)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).

There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1851

Mr. SOUTHERLAND changed his

vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced

as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BROWN OF

GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished

business is the demand for a recorded

vote on the amendment offered by the

gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BROWN)

on which further proceedings were

postponed and on which the noes pre-

vailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the

amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-

ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote

has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-

minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-

vice, and there were—ayes 62, noes 358,

not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 306]

AYES—62

Amash

Barr

Bentivolio

Bishop (UT)

Black

Blackburn

Brady (TX)

Brown (GA)

Burgess

Byrne

Chabot

Chaffetz

DeSantis

Duncan (SC)

Duncan (TN)

Fleischmann

Fleming

Fox

Franks (AZ)

Garrett

Gohmert

Gowdy

Graves (GA)

Hastings (FL)

Hensarling

Holding

Hudson

Huizenga (MI)

Hultgren

Hurt

Issa

Johnson (OH)

Johnson, Sam

Jordan

Kaptur

Labrador

Lamborn

Long

Massie

McCarthy (CA)

McClintock

McHenry

Meadows

Messer

Miller (FL)

Rogers (KY)	Sherman	Vargas	Fudge	Lowenthal	Richmond	Poe (TX)	Salmon	Tipton
Rogers (MI)	Shinkus	Veasey	Gabbard	Lowey	Roybal-Allard	Pompeo	Sanford	Turner
Rooney	Shuster	Vela	Gallego	Lujan Grisham	Ruiz	Posey	Scalise	Upton
Ros-Lehtinen	Simpson	Velázquez	Garamendi	(NM)	Ruppersberger	Price (GA)	Schock	Valadao
Roskam	Sinema	Visclosky	Garcia	Luján, Ben Ray	Rush	Reed	Schrader	Visclosky
Ross	Sires	Wagner	Gibson	(NM)	Sánchez, Linda	Reichert	Schweikert	Wagner
Rothfus	Slaughter	Walberg	Grayson	Lynch	T.	Renacci	Scott, Austin	Walberg
Roybal-Allard	Smith (MO)	Walden	Green, Al	Maffei	Sanchez, Loretta	Ribble	Sensenbrenner	Walden
Ruiz	Smith (NE)	Walorski	Green, Gene	Maloney,	Sarbanes	Rice (SC)	Sessions	Walorski
Runyan	Smith (NJ)	Walz	Grijalva	Carolyn	Schakowsky	Rigell	Shinkus	Walz
Ruppersberger	Smith (TX)	Wasserman	Gutiérrez	Maloney, Sean	Schiff	Roby	Shuster	Weber (TX)
Rush	Smith (WA)	Schultz	Hahn	Matheson	Schneider	Roe (TN)	Simpson	Webster (FL)
Ryan (WI)	Southerland	Waters	Hanabusa	Matsui	Schwartz	Rogers (AL)	Smith (MO)	Wenstrup
Sánchez, Linda	Speier	Waxman	Hastings (FL)	McCarthy (NY)	Scott (VA)	Rogers (KY)	Smith (NE)	Westmoreland
T.	Stivers	Weber (TX)	Heck (WA)	McCollum	Scott, David	Rogers (MI)	Smith (NJ)	Whitfield
Sanchez, Loretta	Swalwell (CA)	Higgins	Hicks	McDermott	Serrano	Rohrabacher	Smith (TX)	Williams
Sarbanes	Takano	Himes	Hinojosa	McIntyre	Sewell (AL)	Rokita	Southerland	Wilson (SC)
Schakowsky	Terry	Welch	Holt	McNerney	Shea-Porter	Rooney	Stewart	Wittman
Schiff	Thompson (CA)	Wenstrup	Honda	Meeks	Sherman	Ros-Lehtinen	Stivers	Wolf
Schneider	Thompson (MS)	Westmoreland	Horsford	Meng	Sinema	Roskam	Stockman	Womack
Schock	Thompson (PA)	Whitfield	Hoyer	Michaud	Sires	Ross	Stutzman	Woodall
Schrader	Thornberry	Wilson (FL)	Huffman	Miller, George	Slaughter	Rothfus	Terry	Yoder
Schwartz	Tierney	Wittman	Israel	Moore	Smith (WA)	Royce	Thompson (PA)	Yoho
Scott (VA)	Tipton	Wolf	Jackson Lee	Moran	Speier	Runyan	Thornberry	Young (AK)
Scott, Austin	Titus	Womack	Jeffries	Murphy (FL)	Swalwell (CA)	Ryan (WI)	Tiberi	Young (IN)
Scott, David	Tonko	Yarmuth	Johnson (GA)	Nadler	Takano			
Sensenbrenner	Tsongas	Yoder	Johnson, E. B.	Napolitano	Thompson (CA)			
Serrano	Turner	Yoho	Jones	Neal	Thompson (MS)			
Sessions	Upton	Young (AK)	Kaptur	Negrete McLeod	Tierney			
Sewell (AL)	Valadao	Young (IN)	Keating	O'Rourke	Titus			
Shea-Porter	Van Hollen		Kelly (IL)	Owens	Tonko			
			Kennedy	Pallone	Tsongas			
			Kildee	Pascrell	Van Hollen			
			Kilmer	Pastor (AZ)	Vargas			
			Kind	Payne	Veasey			
			Kirkpatrick	Pelosi	Vela			
			Kuster	Perlmutter	Velázquez			
			Langevin	Peters (CA)	Wasserman			
			Larson (CT)	Peters (MI)	Schultz			
			Lee (CA)	Pingree (ME)	Waters			
			Levin	Pocan	Waxman			
			Lewis	Polis	Welch			
			Lipinski	Price (NC)	Wilson (FL)			
			Loeb sack	Quigley	Yarmuth			
			Lofgren	Rahall				

NOT VOTING—11

Collins (GA)	Larsen (WA)	Rangel
DeFazio	McGovern	Ryan (OH)
Ellison	Miller, Gary	Tiberi
LaMalfa	Nunnelee	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1854

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. DELAURO

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 194, noes 227, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 307]

AYES—194

Barber	Carney	DeFazio
Barrow (GA)	Carson (IN)	DeGette
Barton	Cartwright	Delaney
Bass	Castor (FL)	DeLauro
Beatty	Castro (TX)	DelBene
Becerra	Chu	Deutch
Bera (CA)	Cicilline	Dingell
Bishop (GA)	Clark (MA)	Doggett
Bishop (NY)	Clarke (NY)	Doyle
Blumenauer	Clay	Duckworth
Bonamici	Cleaver	Duncan (TN)
Brady (PA)	Clyburn	Edwards
Braley (IA)	Cohen	Ellison
Brooks (AL)	Connolly	Engel
Brown (FL)	Cooper	Enyart
Brownley (CA)	Courtney	Eshoo
Bustos	Crowley	Esty
Butterfield	Cuellar	Farr
Capps	Cummings	Fattah
Capuano	Davis (CA)	Foster
Cárdenas	Davis, Danny	Frankel (FL)

Aderholt	Duncan (SC)	Kelly (PA)
Amash	Ellmers	King (IA)
Amodei	Farenthold	King (NY)
Bachmann	Fincher	Kingston
Bachus	Fitzpatrick	Kinzing (IL)
Barletta	Fleischmann	Kline
Barr	Fleming	Labrador
Benish	Flores	Lamborn
Bentivolio	Forbes	Lance
Bilirakis	Fortenberry	Lankford
Bishop (UT)	Fox	Latham
Black	Franks (AZ)	Latta
Blackburn	Frelinghuysen	LoBiondo
Boustany	Gardner	Long
Brady (TX)	Garrett	Lucas
Bridenstine	Gerlach	Luetkemeyer
Brooks (IN)	Gibbs	Lummis
Broun (GA)	Gingrey (GA)	Marchant
Buchanan	Gohmert	Marino
Bucshon	Goodlatte	Massie
Burgess	Gosar	McAllister
Byrne	Gowdy	McCarthy (CA)
Calvert	Granger	McCaul
Camp	Graves (MO)	McClintock
Campbell	Griffin (AR)	McHenry
Cantor	Griffith (VA)	McKeon
Capito	Grimm	McKinley
Carter	Guthrie	McMorris
Cassidy	Hall	Rodgers
Chabot	Hanna	Meadows
Chaffetz	Harper	Meehan
Coble	Harris	Messer
Coffman	Hartzler	Mica
Cole	Hastings (WA)	Miller (FL)
Collins (NY)	Heck (NV)	Miller (MI)
Conaway	Hensarling	Mullin
Cook	Herrera Beutler	Mulvaney
Costa	Holding	Murphy (PA)
Cotton	Hudson	Neugebauer
Cramer	Huelskamp	Noem
Crawford	Huizenga (MI)	Nugent
Crenshaw	Hultgren	Nunes
Culberson	Hunter	Olson
Daines	Hurt	Palazzo
Davis, Rodney	Issa	Paulsen
Denham	Jenkins	Pearce
Dent	Johnson (OH)	Perry
DeSantis	Johnson, Sam	Peterson
DesJarlais	Jolly	Petri
Diaz-Balart	Jordan	Pittenger
Duffy	Joyce	Pitts

NOES—227

NOT VOTING—10

Collins (GA)	Larsen (WA)	Rangel
Conyers	McGovern	Ryan (OH)
Graves (GA)	Miller, Gary	
LaMalfa	Nunnelee	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1900

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Chairman, I
move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose;
and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr.
BISHOP of Utah) having assumed the
chair, Mr. WOODALL, Acting Chair of
the Committee of the Whole House on
the state of the Union, reported that
that Committee, having had under con-
sideration the bill (H.R. 4800) making
appropriations for Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug Adminis-
tration, and Related Agencies pro-
grams for the fiscal year ending Sep-
tember 30, 2015, and for other purposes,
had come to no resolution thereon.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I ask
unanimous consent that when the
House adjourns today, it adjourn to
meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there
objection to the request of the gen-
tleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate
by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, an-
nounced that the Senate has passed
with amendments a bill of the House of
the following title:

H.R. 3230. An act making continuing appro-
priations during a Government shutdown to
provide pay and allowances to members of
the reserve components of the Armed Forces
who perform inactive-duty training during
such period.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS

(Mr. PERRY asked and was given
permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, U.S. Customs and Border Protection currently possesses a very large fleet of unmanned aerial systems, or UAS's. Certainly, this technology can be a valuable asset. We want them to use it to our benefit on the border to enforce border security.

Between 2010 and 2012, the CBP flew nearly 700 missions on behalf of other Federal, State, and local agencies. They were not flying the border, in other words. As a matter of fact, some agencies have absolutely nothing to do with border security, such as the U.S. Forest Service and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

I have researched this issue, Mr. Speaker, and found no codified procedures for how DHS loans their drones out. Certainly, the use of drones for unapproved purposes is unacceptable and poses a myriad of civil liberty concerns, not to mention the fact that it potentially abuses taxpayer dollars, Mr. Speaker.

We need to ensure proper oversight is conducted, civil liberties are upheld, and taxpayer dollars aren't squandered.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT ALBERTO SANTIAGO

(Mr. GARCIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor U.S. Army Reserve Master Sergeant Alberto Santiago from Homestead, Florida, who has served our country with courage and honor for over 40 years.

During his career, Master Sergeant Santiago has deployed to Kuwait, Iraq, Djibouti, Niger, Somalia, and many other countries in the Horn of Africa and is a veteran of Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, Desert Shield, and New Dawn.

For his service, he received the Bronze Star, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Combat Action Badge. Master Sergeant Santiago and his family have made tremendous sacrifices in the defense of our country.

As Master Sergeant Santiago retires from the U.S. Army Reserve, I would like to honor his service and wish him the best in all his future endeavors and extend the thanks of a grateful Nation.

THE WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES RULE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers' proposed regulation "the waters of the United States rule."

Undoubtedly, we all want and rightfully deserve clean water and healthy

watersheds, especially those that make their living off the land, whether through farming, natural resource development and harvesting, or recreation and tourism.

The EPA suggested that expanding the reach of the Clean Water Act is necessary, yet they have not illustrated a clear end of the jurisdiction they seek. As a result, many are concerned about the threat to private property rights, active land management, agriculture, and energy development—especially in rural communities.

Without direct input from stakeholders and the legislative process, these new regulations would circumvent congressional approval, with limited transparency.

Economists have suggested the EPA has systematically underestimated the economic impact that may occur. Counties across the country are concerned about losing control over their ability for local planning and fear additional mandates from Washington, with little guidance or economic incentives.

Mr. Speaker, the American people elected the representatives of this body to preside over the making of law. An agency cannot rule by fiat.

The American people deserve better.

CELEBRATING NEW JERSEY'S 350TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. HOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the State of New Jersey, which is celebrating her 350th anniversary this year.

Tomorrow, I will introduce in the House a resolution with all the members of the New Jersey House delegation commemorating our State's rich heritage and this 350th anniversary milestone. It is my understanding that Senator MENENDEZ will be introducing a similar resolution.

Since its founding in the year 1664, New Jersey has played an instrumental role in the establishment of our country, serving as the location of more military engagements than any other colony and becoming the first State to ratify the Bill of Rights.

New Jersey authors and artists have forever enhanced our country's cultural landscape. Of course, the charm of our State's physical landscape and shoreline cannot be overstated.

New Jersey has long served as a cauldron of innovation, supporting leading scientists and innovators in the development of groundbreaking technologies and medicines.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating New Jersey's history of innovation, liberty, and diversity this year and every year.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF ASIAN CARP

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight the bipartisan action that Congress has taken recently to stop invasive species like Asian carp from jeopardizing Minnesota's ecological and economic health.

The invasive Asian carp is more than a nuisance. It is a danger to over 158 different species of fish and is threatening Minnesota's thriving tourism industry, an industry that generates \$11 billion in annual sales and supports thousands of jobs.

In addition to the economic impact, continued expansion of the Asian carp into our waterways will mean less recreational opportunities to enjoy Minnesota's beautiful lakes, rivers, and waterways.

Thankfully, Mr. Speaker, Congress took action to help stop the spread of this invasive fish by passing legislation requiring the closure of the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, helping prevent Asian carp from swimming upstream into Minnesota's northern waterways.

While more can be done, Mr. Speaker, to solve our problems with invasive species, this provision is an important step in preserving our aquatic ecosystems. I would like to thank my colleagues in the Minnesota delegation for coming together on this issue.

TERRORIST ACTIVITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MASSIE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, a great deal has been going on in the last 24 hours—a lot of surprises—which help make life interesting.

Mr. Speaker, I want to call to attention, again, the human tragedy that has arisen in Africa—and Nigeria specifically—as I was there at the end of last week for a couple of days meeting with some of the mothers of girls who were kidnapped.

There was an excellent story in *The Blaze* done by Sara Carter today where she says:

Precious and Hope—two girls' names—ran for their lives through the thick brush of the Nigerian forest. They could feel their hearts pounding, their bare feet scraped from the rocks, and their legs throbbing from the thorns that penetrated their skin as they crawled low through the tangle to avoid detection.

□ 1915

They were running from the armed Islamist fighters who had seized them and approximately 300 other schoolgirls from what they had believed was the safety of their boarding school in Chibok, Nigeria, in one of the most brazen mass kidnappings in history. Only the night before, the two 15-year-olds had been sleeping peacefully. It was mid-April, and many of the girls had chosen to try to stay cool by sleeping underneath the night sky in only their shirts and

undergarments while others left the windows of their dormitories wide open to stave off the humidity. What they didn't expect shortly after they closed their eyes was that their world would soon be turned upside down.

This is the story of the night that Precious and Hope were taken by Boko Haram and about their against-all-odds escape the next day while so many of their classmates remain missing.

I have met those girls, Mr. Speaker, and they are precious, hopeful girls, but their hearts have been quite broken. Even though they have escaped, they have had many nightmares when they have lain down, because they have realized that what happened to them is happening to their friends every day.

I did ask one of the pastors from Chibok, whom I met there—who was trying to assist the families, the mothers and the three girls who had escaped—what happened to the men? What happened to the fathers? I was told that so many of them feel so helpless and that they feel so guilty because now they don't even know where their girls are, but they know what is happening to them every day, and they can't stand the thought of what is happening to their daughters every day and what they know is happening. Many of the fathers don't feel worthy to be sleeping in their own homes, so they have gone into the bush to sleep, to be there while their daughters are suffering at the hands of these radical Islamists who think, somehow, they serve a god who thinks it is cute and it is funny, as one leader was laughing, talking about the sexual slavery of the girls and that they should be sold into sexual slavery.

It is just sheer evil.

I understand that moderate Muslims do not approve of this activity. I met and was with some moderate Muslims in Nigeria who understand how appalling and outrageous this activity is, but it is time moderate Muslims around the world actually stood up to the radical Islam that is doing so much damage in this world and is purveying so much evil. It is time they stood up.

Counselors told me that they have had so much trouble in trying to help these mothers because they are so distraught, and what they have been told over and over and over again is that nobody cares; and if America ever came up, it was made clear that nobody in America cares and that they were certainly not going to come. So it has been very rough for them. I got an email today from one of the principals of the NGO unlikely heroes who is helping the families and the girls who have been able to escape so far, and she said even just one person from America coming has opened the doors to their having hope.

Now, if one lowly, bald-headed guy from east Texas, just by going over and meeting with these women and children and meeting with the pastors and counselors, could provide hope sufficient to open the doors to so many more who have been victims—who thought it was hopeless and nobody

cared now today and in the last few days coming forward—just think what could have happened if our beautiful First Lady had made a trip to Nigeria or if our President had even taken actions that got back to the families so they knew there was hope.

The United States has no business going to war in Nigeria—we should not—but there are things that could be done without declaring war on a country when you find out that there is such a pervasive evil as Boko Haram, as al Qaeda, as radical Islam that wants to wipe the United States off the map and doesn't mind killing, repeatedly raping young girls, burning churches, burning homes, terrorizing people all because they had this sick, perverted idea that their god thinks that is good fun. It is time for moderate Muslims to stand up and to stand for the god they believe in. That would give even more hope.

I took some pictures while I was there. I wasn't sure it was a good idea, but they said this is part of providing hope that somebody will take this to America and that others will understand, and then if they could see pictures of its being presented in Congress, that that would add even more hope and would help good people to rise up who have been victims for so long.

America doesn't have to fight everybody's war, but they certainly have to do more than a hashtag and a Twitter. 43 and Twitters, as we saw, were not sufficient to stop Putin from invading the Crimea. Hashtags and Twitters were not sufficient to keep Boko Haram leaders from laughing at the sexual and horrible abuse of young girls who were kidnapped from school—girls they are still holding. At least President Clinton was willing to send a missile from time to time to try to send a message. In this administration, we have sent hashtags instead. It doesn't provide a whole lot of hope. They don't follow Twitter in the jungles of Nigeria.

Mr. Speaker, these are many of the mothers of the girls who were kidnapped by the radical Islamist group Boko Haram. They were anxious, actually, to have a picture taken so that people could actually see and they wouldn't be forgotten. The faces of the minor girls have been blurred out. This woman here, Mr. Speaker, had two daughters who were kidnapped. She had great difficulty in talking about what happened the night they were kidnapped without falling to the floor and weeping bitterly. Their pastor over here on the far right is a devout Christian leader and is doing all he can to help the victims' families.

This is that mother, Mr. Speaker, and the pastor. The counselor said just having someone come from the United States, put an arm around them, hug, and hold a hand has changed the outlook. Imagine what would happen if the authority of our administration did something besides Twitter.

The pastor is a sweetheart of a man. He seemed so grateful. He said he knew

what it meant that someone came all the way from America to show he cared.

The face is blurred, but this is one of the children. They said she has had trouble doing a whole lot of anything but weeping and is in a deep, deep depression for her friends.

Mr. Speaker, I do believe it is true—to whom much is given, of them much will be required. We have been blessed like no nation in the history of the world. Now, in one of the ways you provide hope—and it is throughout the Book of Proverbs, throughout the Bible, itself—government is supposed to show impartiality and take care of those within its country.

Some wonder, Well, gee. Aren't we supposed to help our neighbors? Neighbors could be from other countries. That is absolutely correct. As individuals, we are supposed to help our neighbors, and our neighbors can be from other countries, but there is a sworn obligation of government to help protect and keep the people safe within the country's borders.

One of the reasons that it is helpful in a government role to reach out to people and give them hope to defeat their enemies and to stand up to their enemies is that, as President Bush used to say, I would much rather fight our enemies somewhere else instead of around our own homes. I would think that, as has been done in different places around the world, we can go to war, but you send a little help. For heaven's sake, in Libya, when we knew there were rebels who were supported by al Qaeda, we ended up having some kind of operation to send weapons in—getting weapons to people we knew included al Qaeda.

I have been wondering: How many of those weapons were being bandied about the night Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Ty Woods, and Glen Doherty were killed?

Yet we have nations that are friendly nations, that we know are not evil, are not possessed by evil, but are wanting to fight evil—radical Islam—that is a threat to people in this country. Anywhere radical Islam exists, it exists with the belief that there should be a worldwide caliphate and that everyone, particularly in the Great Satan of America, should be destroyed or subjugated or, at the very best, made to pay a tax for the right to exist in another religion within Muslim country—if not killed or wiped out altogether.

□ 1930

I certainly won't forget those families in Nigeria. It is startling to think how much could be helped by doing something more than Twitter. That is no substitute for a foreign policy.

Our moderate Muslim friends, our international atheist friends, our Christian friends, they feel like we ought to stand up against evil that ultimately would be a threat to us.

I think people should not forget that the Taliban was defeated within a matter of short months in Afghanistan,

without a single American loss of life, up to and including that famous ride uphill led by the Northern Alliance leader, General Dostum, whom I have met a number of times. The Taliban was routed and defeated. No American blood was shed to that point.

There are ways to fight evil without going to war. But if you are not going to fight, for our soldiers, for our military members' sake, don't leave them stranded telling them to hold what they got when it may include IEDs.

The lesson from Vietnam should have been, we are not going to send our military anywhere that we don't give them all of the weapons they need to fight, to win, and come home.

We are not, never have been empire builders. Never have been. That is why the people in France still speak French. In Germany they speak German. In Italy they speak Italian, because we have never been about building an empire. We have been about liberty, freedom.

We want to be left alone, but when evil raises its head, it is time to speak up.

But the only way a nation can remain a nation very long and be effective, without giving way to complete corruption or chaos, is if the rule of law is observed impartially, across the board.

And you can't have a law-abiding, effective nation where there are immigration laws that say, here is the process you must go through in order to get into our country. Over a million people a year go through that legal process, and more millions are standing in line to go through that process.

All they see and hear is that America is no longer a nation of laws. America now just lets anybody come in who comes. And we ignore the law. We become as a temporary Third World nation, saying we are going to ignore the laws that have helped make us the greatest nation in the world.

I still haven't heard from this administration any explanation as to why they might think that unaccompanied minors under 18 are flocking to our border like never before.

As I have explained, Mr. Speaker, before, when the word spreads through Central America, South America that if you just come to America, we are not sending anybody home, and story after story says that people come and they get word back home, we came, and sure enough, they are not sending people home.

For those in the administration who are not stupid, but are ignorant of what is going on, here is an article, translated from an El Salvadoran newspaper dated June 7. The headline, Mr. Speaker, is: "USA Will Give Legal Assistance to Children Migrating Alone."

Well, that is incentive. Wow. It is really true. The newspaper said if you can just get your kids to the United States, the U.S. Government will give them legal assistance.

The story is going back. It is not comfortable. Some people are lying in large rooms together, but food is being provided. Now they are going to provide legal assistance. Medical care, medical needs are provided because that is who we are.

The problem is, you have to stop the humanitarian crisis by continuing to lure people into the United States by saying the United States law is United States law.

Each of us in the Federal Government, Congress, and the administration, we have taken an oath to support and defend our Constitution, which means we follow our Federal laws, which means you have got to come into the United States legally.

Some estimate that maybe a billion, billion and a half people want to come into the United States. That would overwhelm, destroy the United States. We have an obligation to make sure we bring people in in a rational, methodical way so that we don't destroy this great nation.

So it seems to be a bit hypocritical for countries that don't allow near as many people in to their countries as we do, percentagewise or otherwise, to complain about unfair U.S. immigration laws.

Well, there are some things that certainly need to be reformed, and we could get that done immediately once the President ever gets around to securing the border.

But we have got to get back to following the law, to enforcing the law, or we are going to lose the country. With what is happening on our southern border, with what it is happening with the lawlessness in this city, people not only refusing to follow the law and follow their oath, but actually coming up with ways to encourage people to come violate our law even more by the thousands.

Here's another article from an El Salvador newspaper from June 5: "Extension of Suspension of Student Deportation." So, the article here is making clear, yes, some came into the United States illegally, but the President is suspending enforcement of the laws he is sworn to uphold.

He just did it by fiat. He announced it. So is it spoken, so is it written, so shall it be.

That is what happens in a monarchy. That is not supposed to happen here. And if our friends down the other end of the hall in the Senate would stand with us, we could get back to observing the Constitution and protect the constitutional powers that are afforded to Congress and not to the other end here of Pennsylvania Avenue.

It is time to stand up. And perhaps, if people in this administration were not so busy luring people in by their words and actions, luring them to violating U.S. law, then maybe they would have more time to send more than a Twitter to evil radical Islamists wreaking havoc around the world that will ultimately end up on our doorstep because they still consider us the Great Satan.

Here is from a Honduran newspaper: "U.S. Military Base in California Used to House Children." The article is translated from June 7. Going through and explaining how these kids came up unaccompanied. We didn't turn them back. We brought them in. We are taking care of them.

Here is another article, though, from Houston. "Breitbart Announces Border Security and Public Corruption Tip Line":

The U.S. Border Patrol has been overwhelmed. The Federal Government is releasing thousands of illegal immigrants per week.

The information Washington, D.C., shares about the border with the American people is often at odds with reality in the region, and scores of foreign children were found to be packed into holding cells on U.S. soil.

Breitbart News has reported a near-steady stream of Mexican cartel activity and criminal efforts across the United States, reported on a plethora of corrupted U.S. officials and law enforcement along or near the U.S.-Mexico border, and reported countless tales of human suffering due to an often wide open and unsecured border.

Breitbart Texas is introducing a new tip line for Border Patrol agents, Customs and Border Protection officers, other law enforcement, and other citizens to expose the reality of conditions along the U.S. Mexico border.

"The new tip line is for law enforcement or anyone who wants to speak out on discrepancies between what Washington, D.C., is saying and what is actually occurring on the ground."

Breitbart Texas Managing Director Brandon Darby said: "Whether you know of Mexican cartel-related corruption occurring on U.S. soil, people or government officials helping human trafficking, foreign children being kept in horrible conditions or exploited, or simply feel the moral obligation to tell Americans what is really occurring in the region, this tip line is for you."

"We are competent and able to handle and research these matters," Darby said. "Anyone can call in and email with information, and we will do all we can to investigate and get the word out."

The tip line number, the article says, is 877-204-2033. Breitbart Texas Managing Director Brandon Darby can be reached. Somebody is trying to make a difference.

So then here is a story from The Washington Times by Cheryl Chumley: "Border Agents Warn of Chicken Pox, MRSA, Staph From Illegal Child Crossings." Border patrol agents who have already experienced scabies infestation from illegal border crossers now fear that thousands of children who are sweeping into the United States are bringing a host of new diseases and ailments of even more serious nature.

"We are starting to see chicken pox, MRSA, staph infections. We are starting to see different viruses," said Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol Agent Chris Cabrera.

Meanwhile, agents are still fighting off the scabies, a highly contagious skin disease that causes massive itching due to burrowing mites.

The article goes on: "We have an obligation to our oath to this country, to those we are supposed to provide a

common defense for, and it is pretty tragic what it's happening now."

Here is a situation report from Thursday, May 29, RGV Sector Unified Coordination Group, EOC, and it goes through numbers, UACs, unaccompanied children, running through numbers of kids coming into the country illegally.

Then as U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen has reported, the Department of Homeland Security has been engaging in human trafficking.

□ 1945

Come into the country, we will take you to your parents, even if they are illegally here. Leave your aunt, uncle, family. Come with human traffickers to the United States, and we will get you to wherever your parents will be. If you are coming and your parents are not with you, and they are not in the United States, hey, we will find somebody to take care of you.

That is not the message that is literally being sent out by this administration, but that is certainly the message that is being communicated by our actions. As a result, the number of what this human smuggling report says cause illegal alien apprehensions by southwest border sector shows to be skyrocketing, skyrocketing.

It is incredible the number of people that are now flooding into the United States because they have heard nobody is following their oath with this administration. They are not enforcing the law. They have become like our country, basically. They are ignoring the law. It is great. Come on now.

Here's a sitrep report from 9 June, 1600 hours, regarding unaccompanied children, the UC influx. It reports, Mr. Speaker, for the entire month of May, there were 5,595 children screened by the Border Patrol, but just in the first 8 days of June, there had been 6,956 children screened by the Border Patrol. As I understand it, May was far bigger than April, and April was bigger than March.

I mean, this is increasing because the administration has not gotten serious about abiding by its oath, by not providing a common defense, not enforcing our borders, not enforcing our immigration laws.

A Nation that refuses to enforce such important laws is going to find that, when it gets around to deciding the Nation is at risk, it will find that it is quite possibly too late.

Instead of being concerned about following an oath, enforcing immigration laws, making sure that people have filled out the proper documents, gotten a visa legally—properly—coming in the proper way, we had many officials who were brought in, made aware of this Bergdahl swap, except for the people the law required to be told—yes, the Members of Congress—the lawlessness goes on. We have got to stand up and say enough is enough.

This is an article under U.S. news titled, "Officials Predicted Detainees in

Bowe Bergdahl Swap Would Rejoin Taliban," from Julian Barnes, dated June 10, from Washington.

Before the U.S. transferred five Afghan Taliban detainees to secure the freedom of Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl, American intelligence officials predicted that two of the men would return to senior positions with the militant group, according to U.S. officials.

The classified assessment, a consensus of spy agencies compiled during the prisoner-swap deliberations, said two others of the five were likely to assume active roles within the Taliban, while only one of the five released detainees was considered likely to end active participation in the group's effort to undermine the elected government of Afghanistan.

Make no mistake—it is not here in this article—but these people do not just believe in being hostile to the Government of Afghanistan. They consider the United States the Great Satan.

While this is going on and we are releasing terrorists, who will ultimately kill Americans—and mark my words, there will be Americans who die unnecessarily because of the release of these murderous thugs.

For anyone who says, well, you know, they didn't technically stab anybody or actually cut off their heads—they believe, they are complicit, they support, they assist, and under every State's law, I am aware of—and every Federal law—that makes them a principal. That makes them guilty of the crime, itself.

I would think, under the logic of those who say, well, we don't think they actually murdered somebody, themselves—well, under that scenario, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed's admission that he planned 9/11/2001 and that he glorifies Allah if he has terrorized Americans, he is not really a murderer because he didn't actually fly the plane in that killed them himself. He just planned it and made sure that it was carried out. That is some pretty weak reasoning.

This is going to cost American lives, letting these five Taliban go.

There was a bill that my friend from California, DANA ROHRBACHER, filed—some of us signed onto—that would have prevented the executive branch from taking any action to release four of these five that were released. That is how serious we took it, but the administration seems to think: hey, it was a good deal, we made a good deal.

Well, it wasn't a good deal. You can't release people who have engaged in evil this serious, who have not recanted their evil, who want to go back and commit atrocities against nonradical Islamists—whether moderate Muslims, but especially Christians and Jews—and not expect that to come back on you and hurt you.

This is an article from FOX News, published June 11, today, "Hagel admits administration mishandled aspects of Taliban swap." You think?

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel arrives on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, June 11, 2014, to testify before the House Armed Services Committee.

Defense Secretary Hagel, on Wednesday, sought to ease concerns about the controversial swap of five hardened Taliban leaders for Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl, but under pressure from lawmakers, acknowledged that the administration mishandled the announcement. "We didn't handle some of this right,"

Hagel admitted to the House Armed Services Committee, toward the end of the first public hearing on the prisoner exchange.

The hearing lasted more than 5 hours, as lawmakers from both sides of the aisle voiced concerns about the trade—while some also accused Republicans of exaggerating the security threats.

It is unfortunate that names aren't mentioned as to who said Republicans were exaggerating the security threats because, Mr. Speaker, when Americans are killed because of this ill-advised swap, we need to be able to come back to the floor and say: these are the people that thought it was exaggerated to say that releasing murderous, evil thugs who hate America was not going to come back to bite us and cost American lives.

This other article, all of this going on at the same time, "U.S. Watches As Iraq Speeds Toward Disaster."

Fighters for the al Qaeda-linked Islamic State of Iraq and Syria took Mosul today, giving the militant group control of Iraq's second largest city and setting the country on a path toward chaos.

ISIS militants already control Fallujah, a city that American Marines took in 2004 in what was the bloodiest battle of the Iraq war. Now, with both Mosul and Fallujah under their control, nearly half of Iraq is in the grips of a group that is a formal affiliate of a terrorist group.

Equally troubling are the circumstances under which the city fell. Iraqi security personnel simply abandoned their posts, according to reports.

It sounded like the Bush administration had teed up a security forces agreement—sometimes called SFA—with Iraq, could have gone ahead and signed it, but thought—because this is the way George W. Bush thinks—even though he is a Republican and a Democrat was coming in, like his father, he feels like: I will do something nice. I will leave this teed up. He can come in, sign it, get a lot of credit. It will help him start off a good Presidency.

Well, guess what, it didn't work out. It turns out Bush should have gone ahead and signed the agreement. Because of the mishandling by this administration, now all of those precious American lives and the blood that was shed at Mosul and Fallujah now has radical Islamists back standing on those spots where the blood was shed.

It is time for what in east Texas is called common sense and here in Washington is just sense because it isn't common. It is time for us to listen to the American people, to read the law and follow it, to keep our oaths to the American people because a failure to be vigilant costs liberty.

I still think, Mr. Speaker, because to whom much is given—which is the United States, given more than any nation in history—of them, much is required.

As we allow lawlessness to continue on our borders here in Washington

without encouraging law-abiding, decent activity in places where evil radical Islam is reigning supreme, we will be held accountable. This country will suffer for its negligent and intentional neglect in following the law that has made us so great.

To those who want to descend to Third World status, this is how you do it: you just stop following your own laws, you start ruling by how you feel about things, instead of what the law says.

We have an oath to do better. We have an obligation to the past generations who have sacrificed the last full measure of devotion, as Lincoln said, and our failure will cause future generations to rise up and curse our names if we don't start forcing people to follow the law.

Mr. Speaker, tonight, I yield back the balance of my time with a broken heart.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. Con. Res. 37. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol in commemoration of the Shimon Peres Congressional Gold medal ceremony; to the Committee on House Administration.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, June 12, 2014, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5913. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Kentucky; Stage II Requirements for Hertz Corporation facility at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport in Boone County [EPA-R04-OAR-203-0794; FRL-9911-24 Region-4] received May 21, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5914. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revision to the Washington State Implementation Plan; Update to the Solid Fuel Burning Devices Regulations [EPA-R10-OAR-2013-0707; FRL-9910-54 Region-10] received May 8, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5915. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agen-

cy's final rule — Approval of States' Requests to Relax the Federal Reid Vapor Pressure Volatility Standard in Florida, and the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill and Greensboro/Winston-Salem/High Point Areas in North Carolina [EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0787; FRL-9911-12-OAR] received May 21, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5916. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-048, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5917. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-034, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5918. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-012, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5919. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-037, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5920. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-016, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5921. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notification of the determination of a waiver under Subsection 402(d)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 with respect to Belarus; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5922. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a determination and certification pursuant to the National Defense Authorization Act of FY 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5923. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification to Congress regarding the Incidental Capture of Sea Turtles in Commercial Shrimping Operations, pursuant to Public Law 101-162, section 609(b); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5924. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Traverse City, MI [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0175; Airspace Docket No. 13-AGL-12] received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5925. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30952; Amdt. No. 3585] received May 21, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5926. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30958; Amdt. No. 513] received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5927. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, trans-

mitting the Department's final rule — Extension of Effective Date for the Helicopter Air Ambulance, Commercial Helicopter, and Part 91 Helicopter Operations Final Rule [Docket No.: FAA-2010-0982; Amdt. Nos. 91-330, 120-2; 135-129] (RIN: 2120-AK47) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5928. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Prohibition Against Certain Flights in Simferopol (UKFV) Flight Information Region (FIR) [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0225; Amdt. No. 91-331] (RIN: 2120-AK50) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5929. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0829; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-085-AD; Amendment 39-17814; AD 2014-06-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5930. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0363; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-031-AD; Amendment 39-17769; AD 2014-04-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5931. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Alexander Schleicher, Segelflugzeugbau Gliders [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0019; Directorate Identifier 2013-CE-045-AD; Amendment 39-17811; AD 2014-06-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5932. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Regional Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0975; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-082-AD; Amendment 39-17813; AD 2014-06-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5933. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-32013-0419; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-129-AD; Amendment 39-17800; AD 2014-05-28] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5934. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2006-24777; Directorate Identifier 2006-NE-19-AD; Amendment 39-17809; AD 2014-06-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5935. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2012-1202; Directorate Identifier 2012-NE-38-AD; Amendment 39-17816; AD 2014-07-02] received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5

U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5936. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0674; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-217-AD; Amendment 39-17817; AD 2014-07-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5937. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-1069; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-197-AD; Amendment 39-17827; AD 2014-08-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5938. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Turbomeca S.A. Turboshift Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2007-27009; Directorate Identifier 2007-NE-02-AD; Amendment 39-17820; AD 2014-07-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5939. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0865; Directorate Identifier 2012-NM-199-AD; Amendment 39-17819; AD 2014-07-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5940. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0668; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-017-AD; Amendment 39-17826; AD 2014-08-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5941. A letter from the Paralegal Specialist, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG Turboprop Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0884; Directorate Identifier 2013-NE-31-AD; Amendment 39-17829; AD 2014-08-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. PETRI (for himself and Ms. NORTON) (both by request):

H.R. 4834. A bill to authorize highway infrastructure and safety, transit, motor carrier, rail, and other surface transportation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Science, Space, and Technology, Natural Resources, Oversight and Government Reform, the Budget, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 4835. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to stop abusive student loan collection practices in bankruptcy cases; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. WOLF):

H.R. 4836. A bill to prohibit the transfer of unprivileged enemy belligerents to the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself, Mr. KIND, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. NEAL, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 4837. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FATTAH (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PERRY, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MARINO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. ROTHFUS, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. DENT, Mr. PITTS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 4838. A bill to redesignate the railroad station located at 2955 Market Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, commonly known as "30th Street Station", as the "William H. Gray III 30th Street Station"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BASS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BROWN of Florida, and Mr. RICHMOND):

H.R. 4839. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act to provide for the calculation of the minimum wage based on the Federal poverty threshold for a family of 4, as determined by the Bureau of the Census; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 4840. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to preclude use of the social security account number on Government-issued identification cards issued in connection with Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. KIRKPATRICK (for herself, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. BARBER, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. PASTOR of Arizona):

H.R. 4841. A bill to improve the access of veterans to medical services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 4842. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain companies to disclose information describing any measures the company has taken to identify and address conditions of forced labor, slavery, human trafficking, and the worst forms of child labor within the company's supply chains; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mr. BEN RAY LUJAN of New Mexico, Mr. ISSA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KLINE, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 4843. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a limitation under the Medicare program on charges for contract health services provided to Indians by Medicare providers of services and suppliers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MULLIN:

H.R. 4844. A bill to take certain property in McIntosh County, Oklahoma, into trust for the benefit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NUNES (for himself and Mr. CROWLEY):

H.R. 4845. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for mortgage insurance premiums; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POLIS:

H.R. 4846. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SALMON, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 4847. A bill to facilitate effective research on and treatment of neglected tropical diseases through coordinated domestic and international efforts; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DeFAZIO:

H.R. 4848. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the gas tax and rebuild our roads and bridges; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DELANEY:

H. Con. Res. 101. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Warren Weinstein should be returned home to his family; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Ms. EDWARDS, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. FUDGE,

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. MATSUI, and Mrs. NOEM):

H. Res. 619. A resolution recognizing that cardiovascular disease continues to be an overwhelming threat to women's health and the importance of providing basic, preventive heart screenings to women wherever they seek primary care; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. SALMON, and Mr. SIREs):

H. Res. 620. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Government of Mexico should immediately release United States Marine Sgt. Andrew Tahmooressi and provide for his swift return to the United States so Sgt. Tahmooressi can receive the appropriate medical assistance for his medical condition; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SCALISE (for himself and Mr. POE of Texas):

H. Res. 621. A resolution reaffirming the commitment of the House of Representatives to the First Amendment to the Constitution and the vital freedom of speech protections it provides for Americans; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. PETRI

H.R. 4834

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 1, Clause 3, Clause 7 and Clause 18.

By Mr. CONYERS

H.R. 4835

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN

H.R. 4836

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 permits Congress to make all laws "which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States."

By Mr. REICHERT

H.R. 4837

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution and Amendment XVI of the United States Constitution

By Mr. FATTAH

H.R. 4838

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I Section 8 Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, which states the United States Congress shall have power "To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes".

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas

H.R. 4839

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority to enact this legislation can be found in:

Commerce Clause (Art. 1 sec. 8 cl. 3)

Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 sec. 8 cl. 18)

By Mr. ISRAEL

H.R. 4840

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mrs. KIRKPATRICK

H.R. 4841

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, "The Congress shall have Power To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof"

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York

H.R. 4842

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Amendment 13 to the U.S. Constitution—Abolition of Slavery "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

By Ms. McCOLLUM

H.R. 4843

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers."

By Mr. MULLIN

H.R. 4844

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. NUNES

H.R. 4845

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. POLIS

H.R. 4846

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (relating to the power of Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States) and Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2, (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey

H.R. 4847

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: Commercial Activity Regulation

By Mr. DeFAZIO

H.R. 4848

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 499: Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 621: Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HALL, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 713: Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 778: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 920: Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 1030: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 1084: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 1252: Mr. JOYCE and Mr. PETERS of California.

H.R. 1309: Mrs. BLACK.

H.R. 1362: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 1462: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 1507: Mr. MCNERNEY and Mr. COBLE.

H.R. 1563: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.

H.R. 1728: Ms. SCHWARTZ.

H.R. 1750: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico and Mr. JOYCE.

H.R. 1755: Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1771: Mr. MULLIN.

H.R. 1830: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. TIPTON.

H.R. 1851: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 1920: Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 1979: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Ms. SCHWARTZ.

H.R. 2084: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. GARDNER.

H.R. 2130: Ms. BASS.

H.R. 2146: Mr. PETERS of California.

H.R. 2283: Mr. COBLE, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. SALMON, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. DOGETT, and Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 2415: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 2595: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 2619: Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 2663: Mr. PAULSEN.

H.R. 3086: Mr. FARR.

H.R. 3112: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 3369: Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 3377: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 3419: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 3426: Mr. LANCE, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. MATHESON.

H.R. 3531: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 3665: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 3698: Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 3707: Mr. STOCKMAN.

H.R. 3708: Mr. SCALISE and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 3717: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 3723: Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs.

KIRKPATRICK, and Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 3899: Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 3991: Mr. ENYART, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 3992: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK and Mr. SALMON.

H.R. 3997: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 4060: Mr. ROTHFUS.

H.R. 4079: Mr. ROONEY.

H.R. 4090: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.

H.R. 4092: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 4162: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 4178: Mr. DENT and Mr. GALLEG0.

H.R. 4188: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 4190: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 4208: Mr. HECK of Nevada.

H.R. 4221: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 4290: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 4320: Mr. KING of Iowa.

H.R. 4351: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LANDEVIN, and Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 4357: Mr. PALAZZO.

H.R. 4365: Mr. NOLAN.

H.R. 4383: Ms. SINEMA and Mr. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 4385: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 4423: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 4446: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 4447: Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 4450: Mr. POSEY and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 4510: Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. SALMON, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, and Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 4524: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 4541: Ms. CHU.

H.R. 4577: Mrs. NOEM.
 H.R. 4578: Mr. LEVIN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. LOEBACK.
 H.R. 4582: Mr. DINGELL, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. SERRANO, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
 H.R. 4612: Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
 H.R. 4622: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
 H.R. 4629: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H.R. 4630: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. RUNYAN.
 H.R. 4631: Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. SENSENBRENNER.
 H.R. 4646: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
 H.R. 4679: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
 H.R. 4717: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. COFFMAN.
 H.R. 4723: Mr. POLIS.
 H.R. 4732: Ms. DELBENE, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, and Mr. HONDA.
 H.R. 4741: Mr. BARROW of Georgia.
 H.R. 4743: Mr. WELCH.
 H.R. 4749: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
 H.R. 4756: Mr. HONDA and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 4783: Mr. COHEN, Mr. FARR, and Ms. SCHWARTZ.
 H.R. 4784: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H.R. 4790: Mr. WELCH.
 H.R. 4792: Mr. LONG, Mr. ROONEY, and Mr. ROHRBACHER.
 H.R. 4805: Mr. STIVERS and Mr. YOUNG of Indiana.
 H.R. 4808: Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. MARINO, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. KING of Iowa.
 H.R. 4813: Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. POSEY.
 H.R. 4832: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. VARGAS.
 H.J. Res. 34: Mr. PALLONE.
 H. Con. Res. 16: Mrs. BUSTOS and Mr. DeFAZIO.

H. Con. Res. 78: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H. Con. Res. 84: Mr. COHEN.
 H. Con. Res. 85: Ms. WILSON of Florida.
 H. Res. 416: Ms. ESTY.
 H. Res. 538: Mr. LANCE.
 H. Res. 562: Mr. MILLER of Florida.
 H. Res. 606: Ms. CHU, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. LEWIS.
 H. Res. 607: Mr. OLSON, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. GRIMM, and Mr. POE of Texas.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 4800

OFFERED BY: Ms. FUDGE

AMENDMENT No. 9: At the end of the bill, before the short title, insert the following:

SEC. _____. For the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out section 243 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6951 et seq.) relating to the Healthy Food Financing Initiative, as authorized by the amendment made by section 4206 of Public Law 113-79 (128 Stat. 824), there is hereby appropriated, and the aggregate amount otherwise provided by this Act for "AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS—Production, Processing, and Marketing—Office of the Secretary" is hereby reduced, by \$13,000,000.

H.R. 4800

OFFERED BY: Mr. KIND

AMENDMENT No. 10: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following new section:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide payments (or to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to provide payments) to the Brazil Cotton Institute.

H.R. 4800

OFFERED BY: Mr. KIND

AMENDMENT No. 11: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries of any officers or employees of the Department of Agriculture to implement, enforce, or otherwise carry out section 502(c)(1) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1502(c)(1)).

H.R. 4800

OFFERED BY Mr. GRAYSON

AMENDMENT No. 12:

Page 19, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,500,000)".

Page 20, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert "(decreased by \$5,500,000)".

H.R. 4800

OFFERED BY Mr. GOODLATTE

AMENDMENT No. 13: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following new section:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to construct, fund, install, or operate an ethanol blender pump or to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel of the Department of Agriculture to award a grant for the installation of an ethanol blender pump.

H.R. 4800

OFFERED BY Mr. DUNCAN OF TENNESSEE

AMENDMENT No. 14: Page 26, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$10,000,000)".

Page 82, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

H.R. 4800

OFFERED BY Mr. ELLISON

AMENDMENT No. 15: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to enter into a contract with any person whose disclosures of a proceeding with a disposition listed in section 2313(c)(1) of title 41, United States Code, in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System include the term "Fair Labor Standards Act."